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Their Majesties Arriving at No. 66 Portland Place for the Opening Ceremony

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE of BRITISH ARCHITECTS

VOL. 42. 3RD SERIES

24 NOVEMBER 1934

No. 2

Journal

On Tuesday, 20 November, the R.I.B.A. was honoured by a visit to No. 66 Portland Place by H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, who, with Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and Mr. Wornum as his guides, spent almost three-quarters of an hour in the building.

We regret that it has not been possible to include the President's Inaugural Address to the Conference in this JOURNAL. This and all other Conference reports will be published in the next number of the JOURNAL.

"It is the great task of the Royal Institute to make the profession of architecture increasingly useful to the community." By so saying and by making the central point in his speech a reference to housing, His Majesty honoured the whole profession. We could seek to-day no higher tribute than such recognition of the profession of architecture as essential to the well-being of the community. His Majesty's words, valuable to us for the compliment inherent in the suggestion that the R.I.B.A. can fulfil the duty of national service are doubly valuable for the emphatic admonition that the work must be done.

It is true enough to be self-evident that the R.I.B.A. would not have outlasted the century nor lived to see its new building honoured by the King in person if through all its years it had served architects only and not architecture. Architecture has meant many different things in the past and the ends which it has served have varied with each generation, some we may think having very little to do with the essentials of good building. Driven not least by economic necessities we have to-day succeeded in dropping overboard many of the punditries which for too long kept architecture the exclusive preserve of those with an eye for styles, or a mind for dates or æsthetic theories, or wealth to allow of patronage, and as a result hundreds of the public now find for the first time that this strange thing architecture is really something that they can understand and, furthermore, that they need. Popular understanding is bringing with it a demand for the united services of the profession.

The architecture which the public knows from its history books has in the past served Church, State and

private wealth, but never before has it been so clearly the servant of the community as a whole. As the function of architecture is widened from the limited sphere of private patronage the possibilities presented to the R.I.B.A. are widened and the responsibilities of the R.I.B.A. increased. Its position at the centre of English architecture makes it possible for the whole profession to speak and act with one mind. If there was no Royal Institute to-day there would be no body in the country to whom His Majesty could address his expression of the architectural minds of the people of the country, nor any body equipped to meet his demands. To do so is the privilege and duty of the Institute. The basic function of the Institute as a professional body with a duty to its members to assist them individually in their work is not submerged but elevated by its duty to the community, to assist each member to become equipped to fulfil his tasks in the light of his national responsibilities. All this is "talking very big," but is it too big for the Institute?

How can the Institute carry out its obligations? His Majesty mentioned one way which has been a part of Institute policy for the whole of its existence. "Coordination" or planning "in the whole field of building" is a first necessity, and the work which the R.I.B.A. has started must continue; this is the theme of the President's Inaugural Address to the Conference.

Planning must start at home, and has started in our new building, which not only is truly a magnificent example of the modern architectural plan but a sign that the Institute intends to run its own domestic affairs efficiently. But beyond the doors of No. 66 in the professional world as a whole, co-ordination and planning is just as necessary as inside the domestic organisation of the R.I.B.A. office. The whole policy of the R.I.B.A. since its foundation has been directed to this end. The Royal address is a stimulus to which every architect in the Empire can respond. The work which is in front of the Institute depends for its success on the co-operation of all architects and all those builders, surveyors, town planners and public on whom lies the responsibility for the social and economic and architectural reconstruction.

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So many people have asked to be allowed to see over the new building that arrangements are being made for regularised tours of the building on two days each week under the direction of members of the Institute who will act as guides and be able to describe everything of interest. Members can, of course, visit the building whenever they like and, armed with the detailed description printed in the last number of the JOURNAL, will doubtless be able to see everything to their own satisfaction, but we wish to recommend that they advise their lay friends to come at one of the appointed times when guided tours are to be made, so that there shall be as little disturbance of the work of the staff as possible.

The tours are to be every Tuesday at 2 p.m. and every Thursday at 12 noon, starting on Thursday, 29 November. We wish as far as possible to know how many persons to expect each day, so those who intend to come are asked to notify the Institute by writing to the Librarian. In addition to the mid-week visits the Institute has arranged for special Saturday afternoon visits to be made by ten or twelve societies who have asked to be given the opportunity of seeing the building. We would like to think that the interest of the public in this particular building is symptomatic of their interest in architecture generally.

The Following Article Appeared as a Leader in *The Times* of 9 November and is Reproduced by Permission of the Editor

When the King opened the new building of the Royal Institute of British Architects the past met the futureand was routed. It would have been natural for the past to be strong enough to prevail. At any rate, until quite recently architecture was the art that of all others clung to its traditions and its descent. The scene was Portland Place, which imperfectly, but still almost unbroken and on a grand scale, preserves the gracious dignity of a great period in the past of English domestic architecture. And the Institute celebrates this month the one-hundredth anniversary of its foundation. The past might well be expected to put up a very good fight and to attract the chief of the attention. And had it done so, had the speeches told only of past achievements and past honours, had none but old buildings and dead architects been held up for veneration, the effect of the ceremony upon the general public would have been to frighten them farther away than they are at present from a secret kind of mystery called architecture, which seems to do nothing except send up the price of buildings and set the experts quarrelling. Yesterday nothing of that sort happened. True, the President, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, made one reference to the past. He quoted from the charter granted to the Institute by King William IV. But the words that he chose pointed not to architecture only but also to "the various arts and sciences connected therewith," thus bringing the mystery within reach of other forms of human knowledge. And the King, after a reference to the centenary, passed straight to the future. He spoke of co-ordination in the whole field of building; of the claims of the passer-by (he is sometimes called the man-in-the-street); of homes for the people; of building along new roads and in places of beauty; and finally of "still greater responsibilities and greater successes in the future." In the King's few sentences a great deal was

packed; and all of it was addressed not to the past but to the future.

There could be no clearer proof that architecture is, and intends to be, a living art. There need be no fear -however defiant of old notions and aims some modern buildings may look-that architecture can ever cut clean away from its past, since no discovery of new materials can change the fundamental laws of structure, and no change of style can escape from the conditions laid down by the several needs of men for houses, places of worship, places of entertainment and so forth. Even vulgarity and conceit, though they have plenty of scope in days of change like the present, cannot do without the lessons that this art has learned of the past. But not only in new styles of building must the lively future of architecture be looked for. The conceptions of its scope has been enlarged. An architect is regarded to-day not only as one who designs particular buildings, prescribes the materials and instructs the contractors. He is also a general adviser on all the material setting of civilised man at home and at work. Especially in association with his fellow architects, he may devise, or at the least may guide, that vast resettlement of the population in new dwellings and new collections of dwellings, with the new roads to and about them, the new churches, the new public halls, the new factories, the new gardens, the new furniture and decoration, which the present insistently demands. The need for magnificent new buildings is still great enough to offer golden chances; but never perhaps has there been a time so rich as the present in opportunities for architecture in its wider reach. That the Institute is perfectly aware of it may be taken as proved by yesterday's ceremony, and by the very building which the King then

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THE OPENING CEREMONY

On Thursday, 8 November, Their Majesties visited the new building of the R.I.B.A. for the opening ceremony to be performed by His Majesty. They were attended by the Lady Desborough, the Rt. Hon. William G. Ormsby-Gore, P.C., M.P. (First Commissioner of Works and Public Buildings; Minister in Attendance), the Earl of Feversham, Major the Hon. Richard Molyneux, and Lieut. Colonel Reginald Seymour.

In spite of the cold and the rain, a large crowd had assembled outside to see Their Majesties, who, on their arrival at the new building at 12 noon, were received by the Mayor of St. Marylebone, Alderman John Fettes. They were met at the doors of the Institute by the President, Sir Giles Scott, R.A., who conducted them to the Entrance Hall and there presented Mr. Maurice Webb (Vice-President and Chairman of the New Building Committee), Mr. Henry M. Fletcher (Hon. Secretary), Mr. Grey Wornum, Mrs. Grey Wornum and Sir lan MacAlister. Before the Royal Party proceeded to the Henry Florence Hall for the ceremony Her Majesty was presented with a bouquet of pink carnations by Miss Brigit Wornum.

At the west end of the Henry Florence Hall a dais, very simply decorated with autumn leaves and berries, toning in with the general scheme of the hall, had been erected, and to this Their Majesties were conducted on arrival. The 1,500 members and guests in the Henry Florence Hall, the Meeting Room and the Foyer had been in their seats since 11.30, the Royal Artillery Band on the landing outside the hall having played while the guests arrived and in the interval before the arrival of Their Majesties. As Their Majesties entered the Henry Florence Hall the National Anthem was played, and while the audience remained standing the President delivered the address to His Majesty, to which the King replied in a short speech declaring the building open. Both speeches were amplified and relayed to the Meeting Room and Foyer.

The following were then presented to Their Majestics by the President:

Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. (Past President).

Mr. J. Alfred Gotch, F.S.A. (Past President).

Mr. Walter Tapper, A.R.A. (Past President).

Sir Banister (Flight) Fletcher, F.S.A. (Past President).

Mr. E. Guy Dawber, A.R.A. (Past President).

Sir Raymond Unwin (Past President).

Mr. William H. Ansell, M.C. (Vice-President).

Mr. John Begg (Vice-President).

Mr. Harry S. Goodhart-Rendel, M.A. (Vice-President). Lt.-Col. Percy A. Hopkins, O.B.E. (Honorary Treasurer).

Mr. Arthur H. Moberly, M.A. (Chairman of the Board of Architectural Education).

Prof. Arthur B. Knapp-Fisher (Chairman of the Art Standing Committee).

Mr. Martin Briggs (Chairman of the Literature Standing Committee).

Mr. L. Sylvester Sullivan (Chairman of the Practice Standing Committee).

Mr. S. Pointon Taylor (Chairman of the Science Standing Committee).

Mr. Robert Atkinson (Assessor in the Competition).

Mr. Charles Holden (Assessor in the Competition).

Mr. Henry Vaughan Lanchester (Assessor in the Competition).

Dr. Percy S. Worthington, F.S.A. (Assessor in the Competition).

Mr. Leonard Horner (Contractor).

Mr. Harold S. Thornton (Contractor).

Mr. Rupert C. Long (Clerk of Works).

Mr. Joseph Pile (General Foreman).

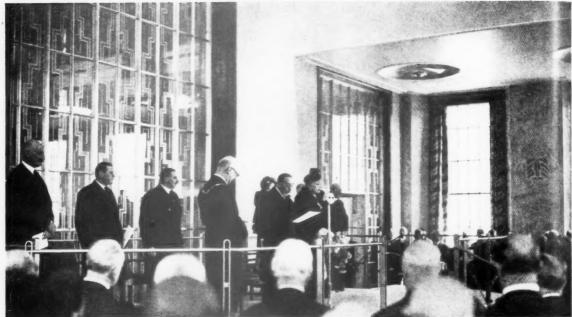
Mr. Henry W. Bush (Foreman Mason).

Mr. Henry Izzard (Foreman Bricklayer).

After the conclusion of the ceremony the King and Oueen and the Royal Party were conducted round part of the building by the President, the Chairman of the New Building Committee, the Hon. Secretary, the Architect and the Secretary. They first visited the Reception Room on the first floor and were afterwards taken by lift up to the fourth floor, where they visited the Council Room. In the Reference Library, Mr. E. J. Carter, the librarian, was presented to Their Majesties, who were asked by the President to accept from the Royal Institute a volume of contemporary drawings of the Ball Room, the Supper Room and other apartments in Buckingham Palace designed by Sir James Pennethorne, F.R.I.B.A., in 1852, and a specially bound copy of the Centenary History of the Royal Institute of British Architects. Their Majesties spent a short time inspecting the special books and drawings of interest exhibited in the reference library for the occasion, and before they left the library signed the Institute Visitors Book

The Royal Party were then conducted by means of the staircase to the second floor, where they saw the Members' Room and the Aston Webb Room, and thence to the ground floor to see the Henry Jarvis Memorial Hall and the Foyer, the screen between the two rooms being raised while they watched. From the Meeting Room Their Majesties returned to the Entrance Hall and took their departure, pausing before they entered the car to examine the bronze doors at the entrance.

After the departure of Their Majesties and the Royal Party the members and their guests were invited to inspect the building.



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ADDRESS BY HIS MAJESTY THE KING

The Queen and I are glad to be with you on this occasion when the Royal Institute of British Architects enters its new home. In thanking you for your loyal address, I heartily congratulate the Institute on this year celebrating its centenary.

To-day, as the importance of co-ordination in the whole field of building becomes ever more clearly recognised, it is the great task of the Royal Institute to make the profession of architecture increasingly useful to the community. In an age when millions of men and women spend their lives in a world of streets, the shaping of these calls for thought, skill and imagination. Every building, whether it be a cathedral, or a factory, a shop or a city hall, forms part of a prospect on which many eyes will rest; and the designer of the humblest dwelling has a duty, not only to those who live in it, but to those who pass by.

The provision of better homes for very many of my people is an urgent social need, in which the Institute has taken a deep interest. The subject is one for experts with wide knowledge and a broad outlook.

Your Members have also given consideration to the problems raised by the rapid spread of building along new roads and in country places of special beauty. To focus the collective thought of the Profession on questions such as these is one of the many services rendered by the Institute.

The Royal Institute has now completed a centenary of useful work, and the enterprise of its members in providing this new centre for its activities, show that they are preparing for still greater responsibilities and greater successes in the future.

I warmly congratulate the Architect who designed this beautiful building, which I now have much pleasure in declaring open.



To The Kings Most Excellent Majesty.

AY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY The Members of the Royal Institute of British Architects gratefully acknowledge the signal honour conferred upon us by Your Majesty

A acknowledge the signal honour conferred upon us by Your Majesty in graciously consenting to open this Buildung, and by the presence of Her

Majesty The Queen.

(The objects of the Royal Institute are defined in the first Royal Charter, granted by Your Predecessor, King William the Fourth. This Charter declares that the Institute is formed "for the general advancement of Civil Architecture & for promoting & facilitating the acquirement of the knowledge of the various Arts & Sciences-connected therewith". The record of a hundred years makes it clear that those objects have been faithfully and successfully pursued.

(The Institute has been the principal agency in creating the system of architectural education which now exists in this country and in fostering the de

velopment of similar systems in the Dominions Overseas.

(Our Prizes and Scholarships play an important part in rousing the ability of students, and in helping those of inadequate means: while our Library is the finest and most comprehensive of its kind in the world.

Our Gode of Professional Practice sets a standard observed by all

the best elements in the Profession.

Beginning as a small Society in London the Institute has developed into a great Imperial organisation which has a hundred Architectural Societies & Branches working in alliance with it in every part of the British Empire. More than eighteen thousand of Your Majesty's subjects are now included in the field of its influence.

(The Institute has always taken a prominent part in all useful movements for the public benefit wherever its special knowledge and qualifica-

tions can be of value.

(For eighty-six years it has been privileged to advise the Crown in

awarding the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture.

Compelled by the growth of its membership & activities to abandon the old premises in which it worked for seventy years the Institute has, in a time of deep economic depression. Jaced the task of building these New Headquarters which we now have the honour to ask Your Majesty to open.

The Illuminated Address, read and delivered on behalf of the Royal Institute to His Majesty by the President

The coat of arms at the head is in gold leaf, and also the headline and initial



A GENERAL VIEW OF THE BALL AND SUPPER ROOM WING

THE BALL AND SUPPER ROOMS OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE

A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE VOLUME OF DRAWINGS PRESENTED TO THEIR MAJESTIES

When their Majesties came to the new building on 8 November they were presented with a volume of original drawings of the Ball and Supper rooms in Buckingham Palace, which had been designed by James Pennethorne in 1852. The R.I.B.A. was happy in being able to make so appropriate a gift as an expression of the interest shown by the general public and particularly that part of it represented by the R.I.B.A. in the Royal Palace, and also as an apposite tribute from the architectural profession to the very real historical and architectural interests of its patron King George and the Queen.

The history of the Palace has already been told completely and magnificently by Mr. H. Clifford Smith and Mr. Christopher Hussey in their great work on Buckingham Palace*, which must be consulted by any one who wishes to go further than is possible in these pages into the story of the building. Before Pennethorne came on the scene Nash and Blore had been responsible for the buildings. The former built the main body of the Palace as a large C shaped structure with an open court to the east, and Blore built the wing closing in Nash's courtyard and otherwise modified his design.

Few people could be found to-day to stand as apologists for Blore's work. He was a mediocre architect, an unhappy designer even in Gothic, "purveying," as Mr. Goodhart-Rendel has described it, "the same description of goods as Wyatville and Barry but of inferior quality." His classic work had not even the distinction of good lineage. Nash, in the light of the modern appreciation of his work, did well, though at the time a torrent of abuse, due more to political than architectural issues, was showered on all he did. As a generalisation the opinion expressed in Mr. Clifford Smith's work that Pennethorne was a greater architect than Nash is over generous to the former: to-day we are less sympathetic to the rather turgid exactitude of much of Pennethorne's work and rate Nash higher than he was ever rated in his own day, except perhaps by his discerning client George IV. Either apart from or compared with Nash's work in the Palace, there is, however, no doubt about the success of Pennethorne's Ball and Supper rooms. These, shown in the R.I.B.A. drawings, some of which are illustrated here, are magnificent and appropriate and exactly in accord with the artistic feeling of their day which last is one of the basic qualities of artistic per-

^{*} Buckingham Palace, Its Funiture, Decoration and History. By H. Clifford Smith, with introductory chapters on the building and site by Christopher Hussey. London. Country Life. 1931. £4 48.

[†] The Growth and Work of the R.I.B.A. Chapter on the architectum of the past one hundred years, by H. S. Goodhart-Rendel. R.I.B.A. 1034. 58.

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THE APPROACH GALLERY



THE BALLROOM

Blore's building for the East Front was begun in December 1846. At that time Blore had up his sleeve a number of designs for the Ball and Supper rooms, which are preserved in the British Museum; but as Mr. Clifford Smith expresses it, "a fortunate change in policy resulted in the employment of James Pennethorne," who during the whole of his career had been employed as architect to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. Apart from his work on Buckingham Palace he is principally known as the designer of the doomed Geological Museum in Piccadilly and the picturesque classic building for the Civil Service Commission in Burlington Gardens, which was one of the buildings seriously considered as a home for the R.I.B.A. before it was decided to build in Portland Place.

Born in 1801, Pennethorne had been trained in the office of John Nash, his uncle, and may possibly have been

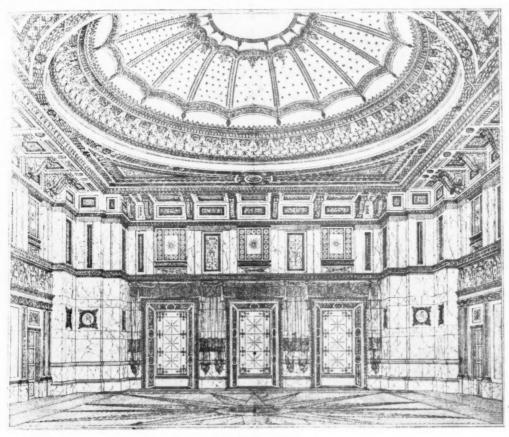
engaged in the earlier work on the Palace. Certainly his designs for the ball and supper rooms link up admirably with Nash's work.

The R.I.B.A. drawings are, all but three, dated 22 December 1852. (The exceptions are the general view shown on page 104 and two drawings with no subscription.) Clearly they were made after every detail of the scheme had been decided, since the details of the decoration, William Theed's bas-relief, Consoni's wall paintings and Gruner's decorative marbling, are all shown so exactly that the drawings can only have been prepared as formal presentations of the scheme to lay before the Queen and the Prince Consort, who endorsed them with his approval. Most of the drawings are made in a miraculously fine pen line which cannot be represented adequately in a half-tone plate. For the Ballroom and Supper room there are pen-line perspectives as well as plans of floors and ceilings and elevations

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THE SUPPER ROOM

of all the walls. For the galleries instead of the line perspectives there are the two charmingly drawn water-colour views shown here.

The four chief rooms can be briefly described; for fuller accounts the reader must go to Mr. Clifford Smith's book. The Ballroom is the largest State apartment in the Palace and the most important, being reserved for the evening Courts and the State balls and banquets. It is 123 feet long by 60 feet wide and 45 feet high. At its west end is the throne dais, backed by a columned recess. The dais to-day is hung with a magnificent crimson velvet canopy, which was first used at the Coronation Durbar at Delhi in 1911. On the flanking walls the drawings show painted representations of hangings by Professor Ludwig Gruner, who was among the best of nineteenth-century decorative artists, and above the lower cornice a series of paintings of the Twelve Hours by Consoni (1814-1884), a painter of the nineteenth-century Italian classical school, who also did work for the Prince Consort at Frogmore. At the opposite end to the throne is a musicians' platform backed by a highly-coloured organ, which is shown in the general drawings and also in a special water-colour elevation. The drawings show twelve pendant gaslight fittings, which have now given place to six immense lustre chandeliers. Mr. Clifford Smith states that the room was originally lit by twenty-one gas burners enclosed in glass chandeliers and also by gas burners arranged outside the windows between the outer and inner sashes, and by ten tall bronze candlelabra, each with forty-three branches for wax candles.

The Supper room, the second most important of the apartments, is approached from a door in the northeast corner of the ballroom by way of a gallery. This room is used for State suppers or as an assembly room for the general company attending an evening Court. It is 65 feet long, 58 feet wide, and 45 feet high to the top of the dome. Gruner's imitation marble and painted representations of curtains are the chief wall decorations. The doorways on two of the sides are shown surmounted



THE PROMENADE GALLERY Now called the East Gallery

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room, Prome tioned gallery and th panels the dr Consor the se better Archite method though with a be wo spy-gla ever, w charact Victori in que contain

The Approar from the room, gallery, covered and gol It is a

There is prior to recorded Clifford

by bas reliefs by John Gibson, R.A., and William Theed, the Younger (1804-1891), who had studied under Gibson and This waldsen in Rome. They illustrate the history of Psyche.

The gallery between the Supper room and the Ballroom, now known as the East gallery, is called the Promenade gallery on the drawings. It is a well proportioned mom, 106 feet long and 36 feet high. This gallery connects directly with Nash's part of the building and the design harmonises with the earlier work. The panels, which can be seen just below the glass roof in the drawing on page 108, are painted in grisalle by Consoni and still remain, so do the door surrounds and the settees. The pictures, as might be expected, are better mibited to-day than in Pennethorne's time. Architecturally there was much to be said for the old method of hanging pictures in tiers to the cornice, though of course the method will hardly pass muster with any one who recognises that good pictures may be worth proper examination without the use of a spy-glass or ladder. Functional demands conflict, however, with the Victorian architectural æsthetic, a thing which has been noticed before! We can only retain the characteristic "all over" colour effect of the complete Victorian room as an exhibition piece where use is not in question and certainly not here in a room which contains a number of the finest eighteenth-century portraits in the Royal collection.

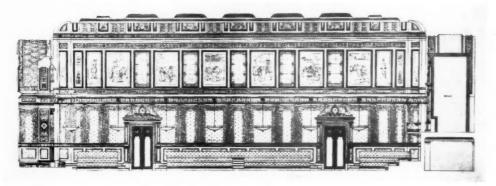
The other room illustrated by the drawings is the Approach gallery, now called the West gallery, which leads from the dining-room in the older apartments to the Ballroom. This is similar to but smaller than the Promenade gallery. In the R.I.B.A. drawing the walls are shown covered with pink, the carpet is pink and the paint white and gald.

It is not known how this volume came to the Institute. There was no reference to it in the library catalogues prior to 1931, when the volume was first noticed and recorded. Its existence was not known to Mr. H. Clifford Smith when he published his book on Bucking-

ham Palace in the spring of 1931. Mr. Clifford Smith mentions, however, the existence of a set of original designs for the interiors of these rooms and galleries in H.M. Office of Works, dated 20 June 1853. There is reason to think, however, that it came to the Institute from a Fellow, Mr. Benjamin Ferdinand Simpson, who from the evidence of some correspondence pasted in the fly-leaf, was the owner in 1902 when the volume was sent to Windsor for King Edward's inspection. Mr. Simpson died in 1914 and the book may have arrived when wartime preoccupations prevented proper record being made. If any member can give us help in clearing up this point of previous ownership we shall be most grateful.

The question has sometimes been asked how a volume of drawings which, having the Prince Consort's endorsement on them and possessing a definite official status, came to be in private hands. With reference to this it is interesting to note that The Builder in its obituary of Sir James Pennethorne (16 September 1871) says that "it may be well here to note that although employed exclusively by the Government, he always claimed and maintained the ownership of the contract and working drawings of his buildings, and only on his retirement last year in accordance with a long expressed intention, he handed them over to the department under whose charge each building had been placed." This practice may account for drawings of such authority as these, signed by the Prince Consort, remaining with Pennethorne. On the final distribution he may have decided to keep them for their obvious sentimental value. They are not contract or working drawings, and would not be expected to have the same administrative value to the responsible government department as drawings of those types.

The Institute was fortunate in having in its possession a volume which could make such an appropriate gift to their Majesties. It is pleasant to think that this delightful record of one part of the Royal home—"the greatest house in the Empire" as it has been rightly described—will now be in the hands of its rightful owners for all time.



ELEVATION OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE BALLROOM

Some Press Notices of the New Building

Modesty, which should have forbidden us to reproduce some, if not all, of the Press notices below, has fortunately been off the job recently, and we have managed to steal a march on her. Had we possessed even the best will in the world we should have been hard put to it to find reviews less eulogistic than those we have decided to quote. Mr. Wornum's building, let it be said at once, has earned more appreciative attention than has been given to any other building of our time.

The Press is too often contemptuous of architecture, and is inclined to regard it as one of those idle luxuries with which fanciful nabobs amuse themselves. It has changed its mind, and has realised that what architects themselves have decided on as their home must indeed be a building worthy of any attention they can give it.

The merit of these excerpts is that they represent every phase of opinion, professional and lay. We have tried to take enough from each article to give fairly the proportion of praise and blame and luckily for us the praise predominates. Architecture depends on the journalists and critics to educate opinion—our pleasure in their generous display of attention to the R.I.B.A. can best be shown by reminding them, in repeating their words, that now and then we notice what they say.

P. J.

TECHNICAL JOURNALS

Building

. . . It is useful to bear in mind the responsibilities which the architect . . . has to face. He must satisfy the most exacting of professional brethren; he must honour the art of architecture in the eyes of the public; he must produce a building reflecting contemporary ideals, but having those basic qualities which satisfy for all time. And he must, with all that, plan to requirements, construct not only soundly but ingeniously, and finally, choose a considered path between either offending Portland Place or, alternatively, considering it as an immutable piece of London architecture—which it certainly is not.

In none of these . . . does Mr. Wornum appear to have

. . . the design is the work of a trained and perceptive architect, who has absorbed external cultural influences while retaining his own individuality. . . .

HOWARD ROBERTSON

The Builder

The new building for the Royal Institute of British Architects is grand: there is no finer word wherewith to describe it. . . . a conception of spaces, each designed in length and breadth and height for an especial purpose, and all proportioned together sensitively, intelligently, grandly, to form an interior of exceptional quality.

... The building must be seen before even the remotest idea of its well-graced qualities can be gained. . . A whole-hearted concentration on the essential problems of library arrangement has produced a unit which can surely be surpassed by no other technical library in the world. . . . A

humble word of congratulation to the Royal Institute, the architect and other artists, the contractors, craftsmen, specialists and workers who have contributed to this magnificent achievement.

L. W. THORNTON WHITE

Architect and Building News

The new building is in many ways a really fine achievement, but it suffers from the prime defect of all acutely transitional art: uncertainty of asthetic aim.

It is debatable whether any English building to-day can possibly avoid such a defect. A well-defined direction can only exist where a school of artists shares unquestioned beliefs and assumptions; and in England to-day there is no such school or if there is, it is still in clique-formation, outside the drift of professional activity. The competition of 1932 might have produced a great design; something as epoch-making as Perrault's Louvre. But it did not. And even the unkindest critics of Mr. Wornum's design admit that of the 284 designs submitted, it was, beyond any shadow of doubt, the best.

Having once admitted that the building is not on a plane of excellence with which the modern world ought to be (or is likely to be) content, we can lay aside the more destructive weapons of criticism and begin to enjoy the design for the many qualities which it possesses.

The plan is the key to every excellence in the building. It has that satisfying logic which looks so easy to achieve but which is so rare. . . The planning of the staircase in relation to the remainder of the building is undoubtedly the high point of the design as an architectural conception. Even if the detail and general handling become in time hopelessly démodé the general plan-shape, with its three-dimensional implications will remain a thoroughly satisfying achievement.

Architects' Journal

I believe Mr. Grey Wornum's design is a work of genius. The new R.I.B.A. is essentially an English building, and in using this term I mean to convey that it has some of the qualities of the best English buildings at the best period. It is the first and most obvious merit of the new R.I.B.A. that it is every inch a street building, and its honourable independence and particularity of design, by virtue of which it expresses its separate function, has not been attained at the expense of its neighbourliness and its subordination to the street. . . .

A. TRYSTAN EDWARDS

National Builder

. . . A design which is (externally at least) a true expression of the building's character. It has the dignity of the Fellow, the youthfulness of the Associate, the enthusiasm of the Student and the opulent appearance of the Hon. Associate.

. . . I do not know of any building where the combination of the craftsman and the machine has received such consideration. The quality of the finish is astoundingly high and . . . will create a precedent contractors will find it difficult to equal.

I do think quite honestly that the design is a very clear echo of contemporary thought among the majority of English designers. I accept that fact as being of more weight than the slightl out. A the m accom

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slightly inhelicate theories I myself would like to see carried out. Accepting such a fact . . . one must rise to applaud . . . the most difficult of architectural problems satisfactorily accomplished.

H. R. Myerscough-Walker

THE "DAILIES"

The Times. 2 June

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So far as elevations are concerned the building , . . relies upon . . . proportion of mass, plane and line, and relation of solids to voids, rather than upon the stylistic features which are mistakenly called traditional but were better described as representational. Apart from anything else this has an advantage in view of the site. There are some good survivals from another age, including work by the Adam Brothers, in Portland Place, but since nobody knows what is to happen there, and what is here to-day may be gone to-morrow, it would have been unwise to refer to them too particularly. As it is, the new building, with its simple general form, clean wall surfaces, restrained mouldings and light cornice, respects the past and—like a well-conducted person—sets a good example to whatever neighbours may follow.

The Times, 7 November

... In view of its purpose as the permanent headquarters of the architectural profession, it is felt to rely a little too much upon decorative details and not enough upon architecture pure and simple. This, however, speaks for the modesty of the designer, and what it amounts to is that the mother of the arts has been a little too indulgent as a parent.

This is not to say that the decorations are not good enough in themselves, but only that they belong to a slightly different

story from that of the building in its main lines.

That said, there is nothing but praise for the building. The question of "neighbourliness," of relation to surroundings, is not nearly so simple as it looks, and, in the circumstances of a shifting Portland Place. Adam to-day and who-knows-who to-morrow, it was probably right to design the building in the non-committal form of a plain rectangular mass. The columns at the entrance might have been spared, and there is something to be said against exterior flood-lighting, which begins to wear thin, even though the shadow scheme of the elevation was considered with that in view. . . . The spaciousness of the planning of the first floor cannot be too highly praised. The library, again, seems perfect for its purpose. . . .

The Manchester Guardian

Mr. Grey Wornum, in designing the new headquarters for the Royal Institute of British Architects . . . was doing something more responsible in its way than any task given to an architect in our times. . . . Not only is his plan as original as it is brilliant, taking advantage in its great girders and stanchions of the new engineering possibilities of the time, but his peculiar abilities as an informed and cunning craftsman have given a character to the work which will probably influence our buildings for years to come.

The front, for all its finish and grace, suffers from the different scale of the windows in each stage and the minimising of the doorway feature to give space for the enormous central window which runs through two floors. This great window has been criticised, but it has the over-ruling merit of being a

necessity for the plan.

The squareness of the door is a proper introduction to the low entrance, but the great window seems to bear down

heavily upon it, and there will be questions whether the two round pylons with figures carved on the top, flanking the entrance, quite retrieve the importance of the door. The door in itself is a remarkable piece of craftwork.

Mr. Wornum's rare qualities of directness and dignity with grace are finely seen on the Weymouth Street front, and here the sculptor is at his best in a series of six figures in strong relief, with Wren in the centre, which seem to be part of the building itself—a rare thing in our architectural sculpture.

It would be hard to think of any building, even in these days of hard economy, which makes such brilliant use of every foot

of its space as this building does.

It is Mr. Wornum's particular achievement that he has done all this with an extraordinary effect of spaciousness and a sort of chaste joyfulness in his free handling of the decoration.

The work has directness and strength, too.

Mr. Wornum has indeed given his profession a distinguished home.

The Manchester Guardian

Every good architect has something of the courtly Inigo Jones in him, and so one expected an approach to perfection to-day in the setting and ceremonial of the King and Queen's visit. . . Mr. Grey Wornum's building combines dignity and gaiety to an unusual degree, and its great hall in which the ceremony took place, with its polished stone and delicate brown and grey colours, its well-marshalled crowd, its spacious platform, with dull gold railings, and especially the two great cases of autumn leaves and flowers and berries, made up a memorable picture. There is a theory that the Queen on important occasions considers the colour scheme of the halls which she honours. It certainly seemed so on this occasion, so charmingly did her brown costume, with a touch of silver in the toque, harmonise with the place.

Vorkshire Post

The impressive new building in Portland Place . . . is something more than a new headquarters. . . . It is meant as a demonstration of modern architecture and as an invitation to the public to stop, look and criticise. . . . The Council of the R.I.B.A. could no doubt have been content with a quietly conventional building. . . . Rightly they decided to celebrate the Institute's centenary by challenging public opinion. . . .

Its enterprising new building is a welcome sign that it is conscious of its mission and that it intends to attract the no less necessary interest and co-operation of the general public.

The Birmingham Daily Mail

Portland Place shuddered three years ago when Broadcasting House reared its functional face. . . . But the architects have now broken in upon the mellow greyness with a building . . . of magnificent proportions. . . . To say that it tones with Portland Place would be as inaccurate as to say that it is modernistic in the aggressive sense. Rather does it set a standard that should be lived up to in the gradual and inevitable rebuilding of this street of fine vistas.

The Scotsman

This is a fitting home for a great Institute of Architects, and it is a triumph of modern industrial art. It could not have been made thus by any but modern methods of construction.

. . . The new R.I.B.A. building should satisfy both expert and plain men. Anyone can see the loveliness of a speed-car or a liner, and here is a building as lovely as the "Blue Bird" or the "Queen Mary," and for the same reasons.

The News-Chronicle

Architects disagree among themselves as much as the members of any other profession, and there was a risk that the architects' own building would be forced into the mould of a sickly compromise.

Fortunately that has not happened, and Mr. Wornum's building is a consistent design which has given satisfaction to all but the extremists among the antiquaries and the modernists.

Evening Standard

A few years ago the cream of Britain's architectural, engineering and decorative talent combined to make the perfect modern building. Technically, they intended it to be ten years ahead of its nearest rival. In design they sought for the golden mean between functionalism and pure beauty. In appearance they set out to create the finest example of the modern decorator's

They have succeeded. . . . I was the first journalist to be shown over the completed building. In the words of my architect guide, it is a "jewel in

A. P. Luscombe Whyte

The Daily Mirror

London is changing all the time and its most modern building . . . must be the perfect expression of new architecture since it has been designed by the Institute of British Archi-

REVIEWS

New Statesman

We live in an architectural interregnum: . . . In these circumstances the new headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects in Portland Place is as successful a building as one can hope for. The design was chosen, and well chosen, in an open competition. . . . The best interior in this building is the Library; it is admirably adapted to its function, and quite free of chichi. The designs incised on glass are also commendably simple. Most of the decoration is sober, panels of rare woods, panels of goat-skin, upholstery in various shades of brown, appropriate no doubt to an official building. Fine workmanship, "safe" taste (except in the sculpture) - no doubt it would be foolish to expect more. And yet, what an opportunity has been missed. For there are decorative painters and sculptors in England who could have lifted this prosperous and slightly pompous interior into true magnificence.

The London Mercury

The new Institute has this among its virtues. It is constructed of brick walls on a steel skeleton: but over these is spread a smooth skin of Portland stone, whose flat surface is only broken by jointing on the ground floor, by door and window holes, some sculpture in flat relief, and unemphatic lines of cornice at the top. As the building consists of one modest block there is no opportunity for a play of cubical masses, and the suppression of upper storeys, originally part of the design, leaves the corner profile without any variation from the vertical. This absence of salience and recession tends necessarily to thinness of general effect and leaves the artist dependent, for the satisfaction of the eye, on the superficial distribution and proportions of his wall and window spaces.

Indoors along with the staircase window the first feature to catch the eve is four massive shafts which pass, without modulation, through floor and ceiling . . . From the colossal scale thus set up I find the leap to the metal and glass forms

of the stair-rails one of more than baroque dislocation, and the same difficulty of accommodation affects me elsewhere but all this calls for longer rumination when completed.

There is one feature which, even in so hasty a note must no be passed over. On the giant primness of his Westminster building Mr. Holden allowed a place for the bogeys of Epstein and sculpture by some other hands. Mr. Wornum has been generous in giving chances both outside and in to the difficult and experimental life of that art among us. Unluckily, where the two sculptors, Messrs. Woodford and Copnall, are at work on the same front, there is a discrepancy in scale and convention; Mr. Woodford's more normal figures melt into the detached columns on which they are placed; Mr. Copnall's reliefs are rigidly schematic, with a flavour of Central America. From one of them Sir Christopher Wren. strangely translated. looks down on one of the latest turns given to his art The Institute has gained by escaping some terrible deviation in the century of its existence.

D. S. MACCOLL

Country Life

Swedish charm and British competence, it might be said. are married in the Royal Institute of British architects' new building. . . . it is significant that the most completely satisfactory room is the library, where decoration is wholly absent and the effect is got by the ingenious and direct treatment of

The Listener

Nothing could be less "institutional" (in either sense of the word) than the new headquarters . . . It has all the essential of human friendliness: spaciousness without vastness, an abundance of light in every part that is nowhere dazzling, colour in quiet but firm control and a pervading geniality. . new building has been described as a compliment to Sweden all the more delicate for being carried out exclusively in Empire materials. But it is these exciting, and in the main really beautiful, new materials, and their skilful selection, handling and blending, which matter far more than the immediate inspiration of the pattern they are woven into. The new library, in blue and pale apricot, is as delightful a room as any one could possibly want towork in; and technically it will pretty certainly become a standing exemplar of its kind.

The R.I.B.A. has . . . a more direct appeal to the public than most of the corporations that represent the artistic professions, and it has done a good deal to deserve their thanks. Even its own new building which is only a stone's throw from Broadcasting House is good—a rare case of a physician healing himself.

"THE BROADCASTERS"

The Observer

The new building is a triumph over the artistic uncertainties of the period in which we live, a triumph over the period of slump when, as an example of enterprise, it was so courageously started, and a triumph over the difficulties of a restricted site. . . It is all so easy to understand—there is nothing in the picture to get out of "eyeshot." It makes one simple impression -it has unity. In this, many people may wonder why so important a building should look so simple—they will, in fact, be disappointed because they can understand it too easily. In this the architect has been wiser because he has crystallised the functions of the building into a single monumental idea which every mind can grasp, comprehend and retain.

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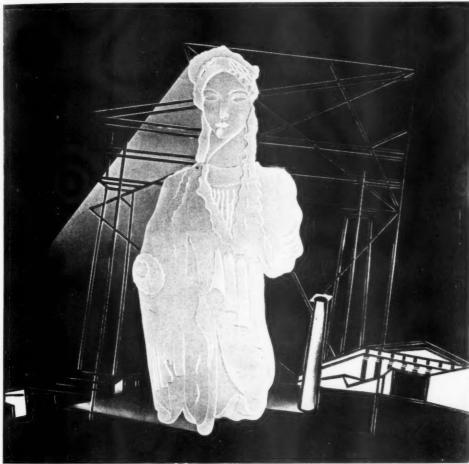
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Greek Architecture. One of the engraved and sandblasted glass panels of the screen on the Council Room landing. The set of six, designed by Mr. Raymond McGrath [A.], represent Greek, Roman, Renaissance, Gothic, Chinese and Modern Architecture.

THE R.I.B.A. BUILDING ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographs on the following pages form an addendum to the illustrations of the building in the Centenary and New Building Number. Owing to a variety of reasons, such as incomplete furnishing, absence of minor fittings or presence of builder's plant, it was not possible to photograph with full freedom in time for the last JOURNAL. While to the human eye a room may appear finished and, in fact, be usable, it requires full completion, furnishing and cleaning for the camera. The eye of faith in the beholder sees the picture that is leaning against the wall hung in its place; it discounts the pile of folded dust-sheets and the step-ladder in the

corner; it sees through the dust the pattern of the marble floor. The camera, on the other hand, has a curious knack of emphasising just those points of detail which the eye glosses over. It is true that our photographer tidied up many of his views before taking them. Moreover, we "removed" with an air-brush a bicycle which some inconsiderate person had chained to the railings (page 23), and we "laid" a carpet with the same apparatus in one of the interior views (here we defy detection), but there are limits to these methods. The time between completion of the building and our press day was very short, and in a few cases we definitely lost.



The "Dominions" screen in the Henry Florence Memorial Hall, carved in Quebec Pine by J. L. Green & Vardy, from models by Mr. Dennis Dunlop.



The Entrance Hall and foot of the Main Staircase.



The Enquiry Counter. This view gives a good impression of the materials used in the entrance hall—the polished Perrycot wall linings, the walnut doors and counter, the terrazzo and Derbyshire marble floor, and the silver bronze metalwork.



A general view of the Council Room, showing the portraits hung.



The upholstery is of brick-red leather and the carpet is coloured "nigger" brown.



A detail of the Council Room showing the fine figuring of the "oyster" coloured "swirt" walnut and the figured brown walnut.

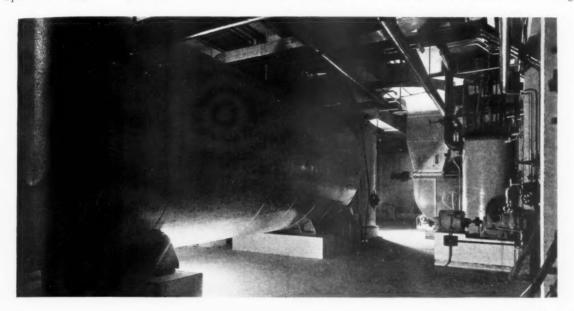


A general view of the Main Library taken from the issuing desk.



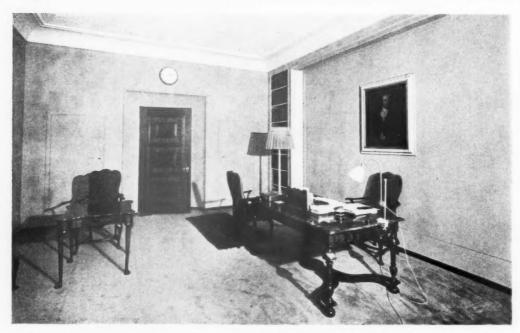
The Aston Webb Committee Room. The portrait is illuminated by a concealed spot-light.

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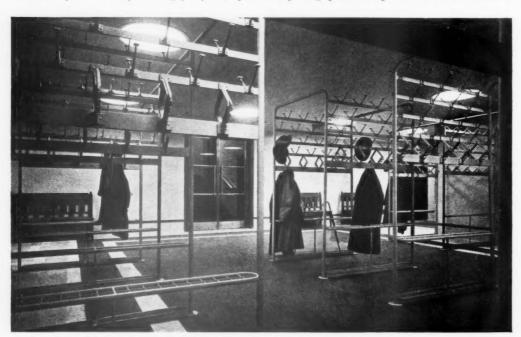




Two views of the Boiler House. The upper shows, on the right, the electrode boiler which heats water during "off-peak" hours and, on the left, one of the two insulated tanks in which the heated water is stored. The lower view is taken from the opposite direction and shows, on the left, the air-conditioning plant and, on the right, the extract fan and trunking. Behind the extract fan are the two electric immersion-heater boilers supplying the domestic hot water.



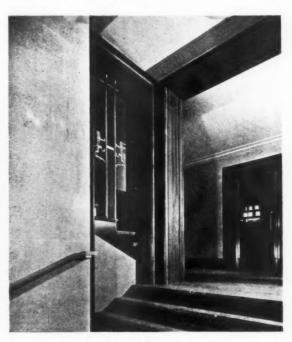
The Secretary's Room has a plain dark grey carpet. The furniture is of mahogany and walnut from his room at Conduit Street.



The Cloaks Hall looking towards the staircase and showing the new type of hat and coat racks designed by the architect.



An acoustic absorbent panel decorated by Mr. Bainbridge Copnall.



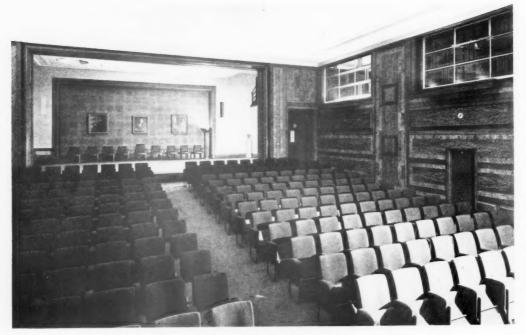
At the stairs leading from the Foyer to the Cloaks Hall,



The Memorial Stone in the Foyer has been lettered by Mr. Ernest Gillick.



The Henry Jarcis Memorial Hall. The "disappearing wall" dividing off the Foyer.



The Henry Jarvis Memorial Hall. The Hall and Foyer as one unit.

Profess F. Abran Mrs. Ad Adams; Mrs. Add Mr. Basi Allen; A Allen; Si Anderson Mr. A. G Presider Ansell; M Chartere

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Mr. C. A. J.
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Mr. C.

Mr. W Cachen Jones: Mr. W Lt. Col Mr. Ec Carus-Castle: Miss H Mr. Se Mr. H. Clarke: Mr. W Trades Alfred

Buxton

OPENING CEREMONY

THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY ON 8 NOVEMBER

Professor Patrick Abercrombie: Mrs. Abercrombie; Miss Jocelyn F. Abram; Mr. L. Abram; Mr. S. W. Ackroyd; Mr. P. W. Adams; Mr. Adams; Mr. H. Thomas Adams; Mrs. Adams; Mr. W. Naseby Mans: Mrs. Adams; Mr. J. R. Adamson; Professor S. D. Adshead; Mrs. Adshead; Mr. T. C. Agutter; Mr. Hakon Ahiberg (Sweden); Mr. Basil C. Aldous (President, Institute of Builders); Mr. A. F. Mlen; Mrs. M. E. Allen; Mr. E. G. Allen, Mrs. Allen; Mr. G. P. Mlen; Mr. J. S. Allen, Mrs. Allen; Mr. W. Godfrey Allen; Mr. A. F. B. Maderson; Mr. H. Anderson; Mr. A. G. Andrews; Mrs. Anderson; Mr. M. L. Anderson; Mr. A. G. Andrews; Mrs. Andrews; Mr. Ewart S. Andrews, B.Sc. President, Institution of Structural Engineers); Mr. R. J. Angel; Mr. C. M. C. Armstrong; Mr. Alan Arnold, F.S.I. (President, Chartered Surveyors' Institution); Captain A. S. Ash; Mr. Henry V. Ashley; Mrs. Ashley; Mr. C. H. Aslin; Mr. John R. Atkinson; Mr. L. M. Austin; Mrs. K. W. Austin; Mr. H. J. Axten.

Mr. G. H. Backway; Mr. Hope Bagenal; Mrs. Bagenal; Miss (A. Baily: Miss Emma M. Baily: Mr. Victor Bain: Mrs. Bain; Mr. C. H. Baker: Mr. A. H. Barnes; Major Harry Barnes; Mrs. Barnes; Mr. T. S. Barnes: Mrs. Barnes; Mr. Thos. Barron (President, National Federation of Building Trades Operaes; Mr. E. R. Barrow; Mr. C. E. Bateman; Mr. E. R. Bates; Messrs, Luxfer, Ltd.); Mr. Ernest Bates; Mr. John Batty; Mrs. Batty: Mr. J. Stanley Beard; Mr. D. H. Beaty-Pownall; Mrs. Beaty-Pownall; Mr. W. W. Begley; Mrs. Begley; Mr. E. S. Bell; Mr. William T. Benslyn; Mrs. Benslyn; Mr. E. W. Berridge; Mrs. Betton; Mr. H. C. Bevan (Messrs. H. H. Martyn and Co., Ltd.); Mr. Eric L. Bird; Mrs. Bird; Mr. Hugo R. Bird; Mrs. Bird; Mrs. Birkmyre; Lady Blomfield; Mr. Percival C. Blow; Mrs. Blow; Mr. Arthur T. Bolton; Mr. J. H. Bolton; Mr. James Bone; Mr. G. M. Boon; Mr. H. Y. Boreham; Mr. Alfred C. Bossom, M.P.; Mrs. Bossom; Mr. S. E. Dykes Bower; Mr. R. S. Bowers; Mrs. Bowers; Mr. J. S. Boyd; Mr. T. A. Darcy Braddell; Mrs. Darcy Braddell; Mrs. Darcy Braddell; Mrs. Bradford; Mrs. Bradford; Mr. H. Chalton Bradshaw; Mrs. Bradshaw; Mr. Walter Brand; Mrs. Bridgewater; Mr. D. L. Bridgwater; Mrs. Mr. G. L. Broad; Mr. R. G. Brocklehurst; Mrs. Brocklehurst; Mr. C. H. Brodie; Mrs. Brodie; Mr. Percy F. Brodrick; Mr. E. A. Brofos (Norway); Mr. W. E. Brooks; Mrs. Brooks; Mr. F. J. Buckland; Mr. Herbert T. Buckland; Mrs. Buckland; Mr. Martin A. Buckmaster; Mrs. Buckmaster; Mr. L. H. Bucknell; Mrs. Bucknell; Mr. Henry Budgen; Mr. A. C. Bunch; Mr. A. C. Burlingham; Sir ohn Burnet, R.A., R.S.A.; Lady Burnet; Mr. P. V. Burnett; Mr. Cecil Burns; Mr. A. J. Butcher; Mrs. Butcher; Mr. A. S. G. Butler; Mr. C. McArthur Butler; Professor R. M. Butler; The Rev. Arthur Buxton: Mrs. Buxton.

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Centenary Messages from Foreign and Dominion Architectural Societies

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETIES AND ALLIED SOCIETIES OF THE R.I.B.A. FROM OVERSEAS

FOREIGN SOCIETIES

MAATSCHAPPIJ TOT BEVORDERING DER BOUWKUNST, BOND VAN NEDERLANDSCHE ARCHITECTEN, AMSTERDAM.

Congratulate you with the opening new building and this memorable day

THE COUNCIL OF THE B.N.A. TJEENK, President.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

From D. EVERETT WAID, Past President.

Greetings from the American Institute of Architects. Dedication of your new building by King George and Queen Mary stimulates our national headquarters project. Regret cannot present in person our congratulations.

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS. COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN RELATIONS.

From Julian Clarence Levi,

Chairman Committee Foreign Relations American Institute of Architects. Upon the occasion of its Centenary celebration and the dedication of its new home permit me to congratulate the Royal Institute of British Architects for a notable record of past achievement and to express the hope that it will be of ever increasing service in the continuance of the noble tradition and accomplishment of British architecture.

SOUTH CAROLINA CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, CHARLESTON, S.C.

From Samuel Lapham. Jr. Secretary.
... We ... extend to the Royal Institute of British Architects the congratulations of the South Carolina Chapter upon its hundredth Anniversary

We also take this occasion to thank your Institute for having sent our Chapter the copies of your Journal, which furnish most interesting reading to the officers and members of our

With best wishes to our professional Brethren across the

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, Los Angeles, California.

From EUGENE WESTON, Jr. Secretary.

. . On this occasion I wish to convey to you the felicitations of the officers and members of the Southern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects on the celebration of the centenary of your organisation and the completion of your new building.

Col-Legi Oficial d'Arquitectes de Catalunya I Balears, BARCELONA.

. . It was resolved to send you in the name of the College the most cordial felicitations on the occasion of the R.I.B.A. centenary and to beg you to excuse our not sending any special delegate to represent this College at the forthcoming festival organised by the Institute on the occasion of the above mentioned centenary. . . .

Association des Cites-Jardins de France, 25, Rue Reme-QUIN, PARIS 17E.

From GEORGES BENOIT LEVY, Director.

We have been informed that the R.I.B.A. is now celebrating its centenary. It is an event of no small significance and you may be sure that its echoes will be heard far away in the whole world.

The high standard set up by the R.I.B.A. and the public good which has always been the aim of its members, apart of their professional interest, has made of your Company a body greatly honoured in every country.

As to the special contribution of the R.I.B.A. to town planning, I shall personally remember that magnificent gathering which was held in your hall before the war.

Our association, an institution of 33 years of existence, is sending you, at the time of this solemnity, its congratulations for the present event and the expression of its most sincere wishes for an extended glory of your Institution in its peaceful achievements, for a new century to come, as well as for the happiness of its members and of its members' children who might see the celebration of its second century.

SVENSKA TEKNOLOGFORENINGEN. STOCKHOLM. In admiration of your work Swedish architects bring their congratulations to you and to the Institute.

SPOLEK CESKOSLOVENSKYCH INZENYRU (THE SOCIETY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN ARCHITECTS AND

Engineers, Prague) . . . Being very sorry nobody of us will be present at the Centenary Celebration to convey our sincere and best wishes on this occasion and we beg you kindly to accept in this way the expression of our deep sympathies and best wishes for great success in your future work for common welfare.

Hoping the Royal Institute of British Architects and our Society will continue in friendly relations in the future, we

Druzhestovoto na Bulgarskitie Arkhitekti. Sofia. From President Iordanoff Architekt.

Société Architectes Bulgaros envoie felicitations cordiales occasion inauguration.

NIHON KENCHIKUSHI KWAI (JAPAN) Congratulation completion new building.

PRESIDENT NIHON KENCHIKUSHI KWAL

PROFESSOR DR. DESIDERIUS VON HÜLTL, Hon. Corresponding Member of Budapest.

Considering as great honour to be member of the world's leading architects' Institute, I beg to express my sincere congratulation on the Centenary and to wish to the Institute further prosperity for centuries to come.

Professor Dr. Desiderius von Hültl, Royal Technical University Chairman of Board of Public Works. anniv Lone

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SUOMEN ARKKITEHTILIITTO FINLANDS ARKITEKTFORBUND

Suomen Arkkitehtiliitto—Finlands Arkitektforbund has received with thanks the valued invitation to the 100-year anniversary of your Society you were kind enough to send to us. In spite of the lively interest we have in your centenary, we will hardly be in a position to send any representative to London at the present time.

We thank you once more for having been remembered and wish you continued progress.

NORSKE ARKITECKTERS LANDSFORBUND OSLO

Norwegian Architects' Association sends Royal Institute of British Architects their hearty collegiate compliments to the opening of the new building.

> ANDR H. BJERCKE, President. K. M. SINDING LARSEN, General Secretary.

ALLIED SOCIETIES OVERSEAS

The New Zealand Institute of Architects
New Zealand Institute conveys fraternal greetings and
congratulations on Centenary and opening of new building.
Gummer, President.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS
Heartiest congratulations and sincerest good wishes from
architectural profession in South Africa.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARCHITECTS From Mr. J. S. LEWIS, Registrar.

It is my privilege, on behalf of the Central Council representing the architectural profession in South Africa, to tender to you its most cordial and loyal congratulations and felicitations on the attainment of the R.I.B.A. Centenary.

My Institute regards with filial affection and pride the tremendous growth and achievement of its Parent Institute; is deeply appreciative of the fact that the status enjoyed by architecture in the British Empire has been achieved through the instrumentality of the R.I.B.A.; and is grateful for the many, many kindnesses received from the R.I.B.A.

May the future of the R.I.B.A. be characterised by a yet greater accession of professional strength, to the end that the dignity and worthiness of architecture—surely the most inspiring of the professions—shall be enhanced.

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, through its Council, sends congratulations and cordial fraternal greetings to the President, Council and members of the Royal Institute of British Architects on the occasion of the opening of its new building.

W. S. MAXWELL, President.

University of Toronto

From MR. H. H. MADILL, Professor of Architecture.

We regret that we shall be unable to have a representative of this school at the Centenary Celebrations on November 21 to November 24.

I am sure you are very proud of your new building, and with this splendid equipment you will continue with even greater successes the splendid work you are doing for the profession through the Empire.

The Province of Quebec Architectural Association From L. A. Amos, Esq., President.

. . . May I offer you my best wishes on the occasion of the Centenary of the R.I.B.A., and may its future be even brighter than its past.

The Ontario Association of Architects

THE ONTARIO SECTION OF THE ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA

From MARTIN BALDWIN, Secretary.

I beg to acknowledge your communication announcing that His Majesty the King has consented to open the new R.I.B.A. building on November 8.

I am instructed to extend congratulations from the Ontario Association of Architects on that occasion.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Council Royal Australian Institute Architects conveys greetings to Mother Institute on occasion of Centenary and sincere wishes for prosperity in new home.

Anderson, President.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF THE ARCHITECTS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Members Royal Institute Architects Western Australia send sincere and hearty greetings on occasion of Centenary Celebrations and completion and opening of new building by His Majesty the King.

WALDIE FORBES, President.

From Sir Charles Rosenthal, Union House, 247 George Street, Sydney.

Circumstances quite definitely prevent my being in England at the time of your Celebrations, though I should have very much appreciated the opportunity to be with you.

Please extend my cordial greetings and best wishes to your President and Council. With kind regards.

THE INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN RHODESIAN ARCHITECTS

From J. R. Hobson, President.

The Council and members of the Institute of Southern Rhodesian Architects join with me in conveying to you as President of the Royal Institute of British Architects our congratulations upon the achievements of the Royal Institute of British Architects during the past century, and in expressing our appreciation of the services of those members who have devoted their time to the various offices, councils or committees, and upon whose work the value of the Institute so vitally depends.

OTHER SOCIETIES

THE INSTITUTE OF BUILDERS

From Mr. P. J. SPENCER, Secretary.

My Council take the opportunity of wishing your Institute a most successful celebration.

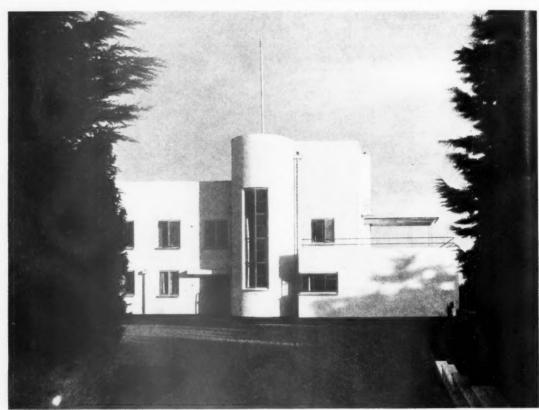
THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE MITCHELL LIBRARY, NORTH STREET, GLASGOW, C.3)

1st November, 1934.

From Mr. S. A. Pitt, President.

. . . I trust that you will have a very successful gathering and I am sure that The Library Association would wish me to convey to you their greetings and best wishes.



The main entrance and staircase on the north side of the house.



A HOUSE IN JERSEY

Architect: A. B. Grayson, A.A.Dip. [A.].

THE SITE

The house is built on an elevated site above St. Brelade's bay and slopes gently from the access road on the north towards the sea on the south. It is surrounded on three sides by a screen plantation of *cupressus macrocarpa*, but is open on the south except for a few isolated trees of various kinds.

THE STRUCTURE

The main walls are built of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inch concrete blocks in two skins with a cavity, the outer skin being surfaced with white cement (Snowcrete) rendering; the plinth is painted black. The piers and mullions are of reinforced concrete. The steel windows are for the most part folding and sliding type, allowing the whole window area to be opened, a feature particularly



The living room, showing the doors to hall and dining room.



The fireplace end of the living room, showing built-in furniture.



Inside the curved bay of the living room looking towards the sea

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suited to the sunny and equable climate of the Channel Islands. The windows are painted peacock blue.

The floors and roofs are of joist construction, the latter covered with insulating wallboard, I inch deal boarding, bituminous felt set in mastic and concrete paving. The balconies and smaller flat roofs are of reinforced concrete.

It should be realised that the choice of building materials in the Channel Islands is limited. Bricks have to be imported and are expensive, the local granite, though a beautiful and durable material, is both porous and very costly to work by hand, and there are no machine plants for dressing granite on the island. Hence, in structures other than wooden, it is almost essential to use rendered concrete block construction. Skilled labour is also difficult to obtain, and all designs have to be made with that fact in view.

THE DECORATIONS

The whole of the interior fittings and furnishing were supervised by the architect, most of the furniture and carpets being specially made to his designs. The living rocm has plain walls painted blush drab with furniture, a good deal of which is built-in, of ebonised mahogany, and blue-green cord upholstery. The floor is of maple boards, and the rugs are coloured blush drab with patterning in pink, terra-cotta, black

Two views of the south side of the house showing the terraces in concrete slabs. The curved bay, of which all the windows open fully, commands a magnificent view towards the sea. The wing wall hides the kitchen yard



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h all view yard and emetald green. The fireplace of faience slabs has a surround of black glass and chromium-plated strips. A central sunk light fitting in the ceiling follows the Tee-shaped plan of the room, The metal-faced doors with architraves of ebonised mahogany and chromium-plated strid.

The dining-room has walls of shiny black plaster, a peacock blue carpet and furniture of ebonised mahogany with chromium-plated steel legs. The blue dinner service was designed by the

architect.

The billiard room is panelled in oak plywood, the upholstery of the built-in seating being henna coloured. The carpets, on a maple-board floor, are buff, brown and oatmeal.

THE EQUIPMENT

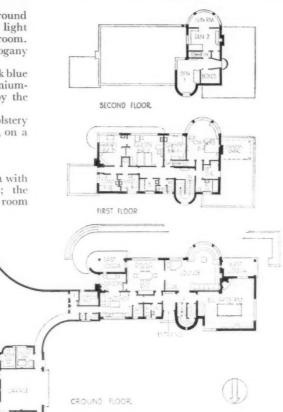
The house is warmed by a low-pressure hot-water system with concealed panels in the main rooms, and some radiators; the boiler is coke fired. There are open fireplaces in the living room and billiard room and a few electric fires in bedrooms. The lighting and power plant is along-

side the garage.

The kitchen is very fully detailed and equipped, the heating unit being an Aga cooker. There is a large oil-fired refrigerator. The garage has space for two large cars and is closed by a rolling steel shutter.

REFERENCE TO PLANS:

B.R.—Bedroom B.—Bathroom D.R.—Dressing Room F.—Fuel





The South Side. The Central Walk on the Axis of the Curved Bay is not yet fully planted.





Above:

The south side. This view shows how the building has been spread into the site by terracing and concrete plant boxes. The three loggias provide a choice of shelter on windy days

Left

The main stair has treads and risers of black rubber with greenish-blue inlay and stainless steel nosings. The walls and curtains are ivery coloured and the handrails chromium plated

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Book Reviews

HEREFORDSHIRE*

BY S. E. DYKES-BOWER, A.R.I.B.A.

With this volume, covering the north-west portion of the county, the survey of Herefordshire is complete and the Commissioners announce the transference of their activities to Westmorland. To say that the third volume in every way maintains the standard of its predecessors is to give it the highest praise. In arrangement and production it leaves little to be desired and the illustrations are as excellent as they are numerous. The survey as a whole represents a monument of laborious and accurate observation which does honour to the county and of which the county in its turn ought to be proud. It may be hoped that its responsible authorities, private as well as public, will give expression to their sense of obligation by taking care to maintain worthily so rich a store of treasures.

If the section of Herefordshire here dealt with is not possessed of any monuments of the first importance, comparable with Hereford Cathedral, Abbey Dore or Goodrich Castle, it shows a remarkable abundance of that half-timbered domestic architecture which is characteristic of all the country on the Welsh Marches. Local variations distinguish it in its course through three counties, and the Herefordshire brand of it has less pretensions to formal design than those of Shropshire and Cheshire. But formal qualities are discernible in a few larger houses like The Ley at Weobley, with its eight-gabled front, and the effect is the more satisfying for freedom from those striking but rather startling patterns that adorn similar houses in Cheshire. The greater part however of the half-timbered architecture of Herefordshire appears curiously haphazard and unpretentious and it is for this reason that it is best studied in the mass. Such villages as Pembridge and Weobley that possess every type of domestic half-timbered building from the early crutch truss construction onwards, seem to suggest that the special charm of this Herefordshire tradition is to be sought in the cumulative effect of whole groups of buildings rather than in the merits of individual houses, picturesque as these often are. Pembridge in particular is the ideal Herefordshire village; with its church and detached timber belfry, market-hall, two rows of half-timbered almshouses and two streets of half-timbered cottages, it exhibits an exceptional unity and completeness.

*Ryal Commission on Historical Monuments, Herefordshire, Vol. 111. North-West, London: H.M.S.O. 1934, 303, One man, John Abel, is specially associated with this building tradition, partly because some of its finest and most elaborate examples are attributed to him, partly because he achieved more than local honour with the title "King's Carpenter" conferred on him by Charles I. The north-west portion of the county contains two of his works, the former town hall at Leominster, now a private house, and Lady Hawkins' School at Kington, as well as his memorial tablet at Sarnesfield, where he died at the age of 97. This tablet, bearing an inscription and the symbols of foot-rule, square and compasses, must be one of the few memorials to an English architect prior to the eighteenth century.

By far the finest specimen of later domestic architecture was Shobdon Court, a brick mansion that figured in *Vitruvius Britannicus* and notable for its unusual square plan. It is necessary to write of it in the past tense, because the tragic fate of too many large houses has overtaken it and it has recently been pulled down.

The military architecture of the district is not extensive. Brampton Bryan is the best of the castles, but in no way outstanding. Greater interest attaches to the remains of earlier castles in the form of earthworks, of which there is a fairly good series. The course of Offa's Dyke is discernible for some miles at wide intervals.

Churches are for the most part built in the local red sandstone, a material not very favourable to fine working nor always very durable. For this reason, and because the county has never been much different from what it is now, an agricultural community of no great wealth, few of them are of much size or grandeur. The most important is Leominster Priory which, though only half its original dimensions, is a spacious agglomerate of all periods and exhibits in its Norman nave a form of arcade design that is probably unique. Pembridge is a church of singular grace and dignity and Monningtonon-Wye deserves mention as a small but very complete example of late seventeenth-century Gothic. Almost all the churches show strong native influences in the treatment of details like window tracery and contain something of interest or beauty for those whose tastes are not over-sophisticated. But few, unhappily, have escaped the vile crudities of church furnishing that have been the contribution of the past hundred years.

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MANASARA ON ARCHITECTURE*

BY A. G. SHOOSMITH, A.R.I.B.A.

Since, 100 years ago, Ram Raz published his essay on The Architecture of the Hindus, in which he quoted freely from Manasara, Kasyapa and such other fragments of the Silpa-Sastras as were accessible to him, many more manuscripts have been discovered; but no attempt to edit and publish these ancient Indian treatises on "the science of architecture" was made until Professor Acharyar, of Allahabad University, addressed himself in 1914 to the task of translating the Manasara from twelve more or less shattered manuscripts, in bad Sanskrit rendered in five different scripts, collected together with the aid of the Indian and home Governments. story of his labours in travel and research is briefly told in his interesting preface. As a necessary preliminary to the elucidation of the texts he compiled an encyclopædic Dictionary of Hindu Architecture, which appeared in 1927 together with a second volume entitled Indian Architecture, and designed to serve as an introduction to the final

work, now under review.

Manasara may be likened to an architectural Manu; the word means "the essence of measurement," and is stated variously to be the name of a sage, of a group of sages, and of a code of laws. Professor Acharyar, in an exhaustive argument, ascribes the compilation of the original texts to the fifth or sixth century A.D. He also likens Manasara to an Indian Vitruvius, with whose work he supposes a "relation of indebtedness," and the points of resemblance in form are remarkable. But it is to be regretted that he has followed Ram Raz into the apparent error of attempting to establish a close parallel between Indian trabeated building and the Classic orders. That they have a common ancestor in Western Asia is beyond doubt: that foundation, post and beam are present in both is in any event not surprising because they are elementary. But in the licence given by Manasara to combine any pedestal, any base, and apparently any entablature with any given column we recognise the negation of order in the Classic sense. The prodigality of alternatives in all parts of the text brought Ram Raz to despair, and I can find nothing in the passage on which the case for a set of classically proportioned columns appears to be founded, or anywhere else in the translated text, to encourage an assumption that the various ratios of height to diameter indicated are applicable respectively, each to each of the columns subsequently described, and are not merely alternative [The passage (Chapter XV, lines 15-19) reads as follows: "The height of the pillar being divided into 12, II. 10, 9, or 8 (equal) parts, each one (of these) may be in width."] If there is extraneous evidence to support suc an assumption, its omission leaves the case unconvincing the more so, perhaps, because the graphical interpretation of the descriptions is open to further objections First, the drawings (Plates XLIV-XLVII) show the proportions allotted to the columns in a sequence reversing that in the text. Second, they reveal a confusion between generic and specific terms. Third, two columns decribed as identical, except that one lacks a pedestal, an given different proportions. Tests by actual example are impossible, since nothing suitable has survived. The cave temples of the period naturally have columns much greater thickness. Ram Raz seeks to illustrate Manasara by means of extant examples, which differ pro foundly from the drawings appended by Professo Acharyar; and it is certain that from the buildings of the centuries immediately subsequent to Manasara, constituting what has been called the golden age of India architecture, such an abundance of examples could b gathered, of different types each varying widely in proportions, as to reduce the case for a set of orders to a absurdity. It is natural that types persist in districts; the Indian is the most conservative of men, unwilling to for sake his institutions, in which he has a traditional and unshakable belief. His artistic instincts rarely lead him from familiar ground. Satisfied with approximations. and generally incapable of understanding exactness, h accepts the proportions approved by his very toleran eve, as Manasara continually advises him to do. Bu Manasara recognises that the approach to sculptur must be differently made. Licence would be dangerous approximations would defeat purpose. The image of divinity is required to be not only recognisable as representation but also rubrically correct. Various attitudes, gestures and ornaments have definite meaning connected with attributes. Manasara, therefore, devote several chapters to particular instructions for carvin images, and such codes, until the oral tradition became too confused, were no doubt a valuable aid to the ordin ary craftsman. India is full of dull sculpture likely have been so produced. In contrast to it, the sculpture of Ellora, Elephanta and Kanarak are the works of masters, and know no copybook rules.

^{*} Manasara on Architecture and Sculpture. Sanskrit text with critical nates.

^{*} Architecture of Manasara. Translation from original Sanskrit.

*Architecture of Manasara. Illustrations of architectural and sculpt

^{*}Architecture of Manasara. Illustrations of architectural and sculptural objects. Translated and edited by Professor Acharyar. Printed at the Government Press, Allahabad, for the Oxford University Press.

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Directness and simplicity are not Eastern qualities, and Manasara, with his vagueness and his alternatives, reflects India as faithfully as the more precise Vitruvius reflects Rome. In that fidelity lies the true parallel. Professor Acharyar points out that the Manasara is a compilation, not an original work; the matter is traditional, owing nothing to Vitruvius. That the arrangement was influenced by him, or by some older model known to both, is credible, for the similarities in that respect seem too many for coincidence. But there is none of the Roman's logic; the appeal is to religious feeling or superstition, which in the East have greater power to compel. Injunctions on such practical matters as examination of the soil, foundaions and joinery are pressed on the architect by no consideraions of their reasonableness, but of propitiousness or of his wellbeing. The architect is expected to be a man of noble character and deep learning; that he is accorded some considerable impertance is made evident by the position of his dwelling in the mple or palace plan and by the part he plays in ceremonial. We even find him at a coronation taking the crown from the hands of the Brahmans and placing it upon the king's head, perhaps because only he can set it on straight. Chapter LXIX, on the penalties of defective construction, shows the rule of superstition and taboo at its height. Defects are to be visited with drought, famine, abdominal disease, death of the king, destruction of the country and other dire and improbable results. That a badly designed stair may cripple the master, or a defective roof encompass the destruction of good people and even stop the spread of learning we can believe; but it is obvious that even in these reasonable warnings contact with realities has been lost.

There can be no question of the importance of Manasara, and Professor Acharvar has deserved well of all students of Indian history and architecture by making it accessible to them. It is a rich mine of information for those who will dig, though tedious be the digging. That he has had great difficulties to overcome some of his footnotes bear witness; they tell of missing lines, clumsiness and corruption in the text. Exception may be taken, in the translation, to the use of certain words; for instance "undertakers" for body-burners; "portholes" for ircular windows; "quartermasters" for some species of minor deity. For the unhappy rendering of the days of the Hindu week by our English names, equivalent only on the calendar, there is the barbarous precedent of "Friday mosque" for umma Murjid; barbarous because it butchers the meaning by suppressing the essential fact that Jumma (the day of assembly) is the Moslem Sabbath. But these are mere literary blemishes in a work whose object is to serve the study of istory and archæology. A more serious stumbling-block is the literal translation of metaphorical terms for architectural nembers, without explanations of which it is impossible to understand how the drawings were built up from the textual descriptions. In regard to columns, for example, we read of bridge-moulding, vestibule (explained as a "nose"), cage, warrior's neck; we do not know them, and are not helped to recognise them. Plate XXVII, a parallel of mouldings, shows only those which are thought to support the "classical" theory; neither there, nor on the drawings of pedestals and bases, are we given a true idea of Indian mouldings, which are things not of refined contour, but of tremendous projections and powerful shadows softened by a patina of lively carving. The beautiful drawings in Ram Raz's book vividly portray this sculpturesque quality, though they are notably less conscientious in their interpretation of the text. The buildings which Professor Acharyar shows in his plates are like no characteristic buildings to be seen to-day, and their want of character is admitted by a note telling us that the same design, with some modification of the section, may serve for dwelling or temple. The Sikhara, mark of the Hindu temple, in all except the southernmost part of India, is not shown at all, though it is referred to in the text. The drawings, then, can serve only as diagrams, and for such they might have been better annotated.

A work of this importance deserved better treatment at the hands of the printers. The Indian compositors are guilty of abundant misprints. The paper and binding are poor, and the folded plates can only be opened with difficulty. A uniformity of title for the three volumes, with specific subtitles, would better have announced the unity of the work.

THE MODERN GARDEN

GARDEN DESIGN OF TO-DAY. By Percy S. Crane.

This well-illustrated small quarto volume, written by the head of a well-known firm of garden contractors, reflects the present-day tendencies in garden design. Scattered through its pages there are many sound precepts as to lay-out and planting, the writer having that wide knowledge of shrubs and flowers the lack of which is felt by so many architect designers of gardens.

A large part of the book is devoted to detailed descriptions of suitable planting for various types of gardens. These would have been more useful if the author had not so marked a colour preference (yellow), and had not mixed up his advice as to suitable planting for sun and shade, and for acid and alkaline soils.

Several of the plans show considerable skill in the lay-out. These follow the typically English principle put forward by John D. Sedding forty years ago as a solution of the Formal versus Landscape Gardening fracas between Blomfield and Robinson. Sedding suggested that the surroundings of the house should be formal, this formality gradually fading into landscape gardening as the boundaries were approached, so that the garden formed a good setting for the building and also became part of the countryside in which it was placed.

The advantage of arranging the planting so that the whole garden cannot be seen from the house is well illustrated in several of the small gardens, Woodmead, Bankside and Sandy Bank being excellent examples of making the most of restricted

Many of the architectural details will not appeal to architects, stone pavings in particular being badly arranged (the Rose Garden, "Hampton," is an instance of how crazy paving should not be laid), but there are numbers of ideas to be gleaned even if the execution of them sometimes falls short. The Stairway in a Surrey Garden (p. 120) is an instance. Here the stonework is excellent, and the composition brilliant, but surely more landings would be an advantage.

Garden lovers tend to fall into two classes. The one is satisfied if he can grow quantities of rare or new shrubs and flowers and produce new varieties which outclass those of his rivals, while the other—many of whom possess wide knowledge of floriculture—are not content unless the garden presents a series of beautiful pictures. It is a pleasure to record that Mr. Cane belongs definitely to the latter class, and is prepared to sacrifice the inclusion of innumerable species of plants, if their inclusion would make the effect of the garden as a whole spotty and ineffective.

Judging by the illustrations he has not yet succeeded in obtaining a satisfactory solution of that difficult problem the rose garden, which is apt to look an arid waste of earth and mutilated bushes for too much of the year. His written word, however, indicates that he feels this, since he makes suggestions

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for bordering the beds and has apparently dared in one instance to blot out the pruned bushes with serried ranks of tulips. The padré at Oxted solved the problem by dotting the ground with tiny dwarf pansies and a similar expedient is suggested in the book, but the rose enthusiast would not countenance such heresies.

There are short chapters on wild and wood gardening, but the author is not very interested in foliage contrasts and is apt to recommend the commoner conifers, cypresses and birches for most of his shelter and boundary planting. A good list of the flowering trees is given with explanations as to how these, junipers and Japanese maples may be used in various types of garden.

The book is eminently readable and contains some delightful pen and ink sketches by Harold White, also good indices, that of the plants giving both English and Latin names. Within its limitations, a great deal of excellent advice is given, but one misses the catholic taste and breadth of view found in Gertrude Jekyll's books, particularly as to colours, planting for various soils and seasons, and the love of tree and plant form and colour contrast, which make her books on gardening a never-failing source of pleasure.

Gilbert H. Jenkins [F.].

DESIGNS ON THE PUBLIC

Design in Modern Life. By Robert Atkinson; Elizabeth Denby; E. Maxwell Fry; James Laver; Frank Pick; A. B. Read; Gordon Russell. Edited by John Gloag. 1934. George Allen and Unicin, Ltd. 10s. 6d.

The Fine Arts were described by Professor Goodhart-Rendel in his Slade Lectures as those that must please and may serve, the Useful Arts as those that must serve and may please. Design in Modern Life is a book about the useful arts which goes to prove that the amount of pleasure we derive from them is precisely in proportion to the efficiency with which they serve us. And it is interesting to note how the approach to the public in 1934 varies from that of half a century ago.

This question of design, as applied to objects of everyday use, is certainly in the air at present, which may be partly a consequence of its having been broadcast over the ether in 1933. With the increasing activities of the Design and Industries Association, assisted by the B.B.C., and by the fact that the Royal Academy itself is opening its doors in January next to an Exhibition of Art in Industry, one is made aware that a determined assault is being made on the mind and feelings of the general public with regard to design, an assault that may overpower its objective so completely that for a decade at least some of us may be able to state without contradiction that we know what the public wants. Mr. John Gloag, indeed, reveals the secret in the opening chapter of this book, by saying that the public does not know itself what it wants; adding that nevertheless we do not escape the uneasy and irritating feeling that we are constrained to want only what we can get. And this introduces a series of essays dealing with the various fields of contemporary design such as streets, public buildings, dwellings, kitchens, furniture, clothes and lighting, each written by an expert in the subject concerned and one and all calculated to persuade the general public

to apply the acid test of common sense to the things it uses or wears or lives in, and refuse to accept what it is given without very good reason.

The most persuasive of the writers and those whose subjects most nearly approach the general interest are Mr. Maxwell Fry, who discusses dwellings and town and country planning, Miss Elizabeth Denby on the subject of kitchens, 4nd Mr. James Laver, who contributes an amusing and informative chapter on clothes.

At the end of the book are inserted the three well-known progress and period charts designed by Mr. Raymond McGrath, which show at a glance the development of furniture, utensik, costume and transport from the year 1500 to the present day. These really deserve a separate page to each chart, so that one could fix them on the walls of an office or bedroom and spend a few occasional minutes of speculation on the many interesting subjects they bring to mind.

It may seem illogical to object to the format of a book which is in itself a good piece of design. But one cannot help feeling that as the contents are obviously intended to reach an enormous section of the public, some economy in the production, coupled with a corresponding reduction in price, would have been better policy. One can only hope that the success of this volume will be such as to warrant the publication of a cheap edition.

W. G. H.

CHURCH BUILDING

How to Винь а Сниксн. By Benedict Williamson, A. Ouself, Ltd. 1934. tos. 6d.

Benedict Williamson's *How to Build a Church* is a book to be possessed by those who are interested in Church Architecture. The experienced architect will find it useful as a guide, but is chief value will be to the young architect and the layman. I appreciated the information on practical and liturgical requirements to which the greater part of the book is devoted and am sure the clear and concise statement of facts will appeal alike to layman and clergy.

The author shows a wise understanding of building materials and an appreciation of modern architecture, and his second chapter, in defence of modern churches, should do much to popularise this form of building with the clergy, often overconservative in these matters.

Perhaps in taking so large a Church (namely for 2,000) as a type for illustrating I iturgical details, the author makes a mistake. In Ithis country we are rarelp called upon to design Churches for more than 800 people and many priests have to be content to start their parishes with much smaller Churches.

It seems to me that Mr. Williamson has over-stressed the debt of modern architecture to Italy, omitting entirely any reference to the great achievements of northern Europe and Scandinavia, to which Italy herself is indebted.

The illustrations in the book will be found very useful and interested me immensely, as did the sketches, though these I thought poor in execution; those devoted to modern architectural decoration I thought bad and likely, in fact, to do more harm than good.

F. X. VELARDE [A.].

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Review of Periodicals

Within the self-imposed limit of these pages attempt is made in this review to refer to the more important articles in all the Journals received by the library. None of the journals mentioned are in the loan library, but the librarian will be pleased to give information about prices and where each journal can be obtained. Members can have photostat copies of particular articles made from journals in the library.

CIVIC BUILDINGS

ARGUITECTURE (N.Y.). Vol. L.X.X. No. 4. October.
The new Parliament House, Helsingfors (J. S. Siren); a dignified building on a modernised classic model with much good

AMERICAN ARCHITECT. Vol. CXLV. No. 2626, October.

The Nebraska State Capitol; detailed description of the building, its detail and equipment (Bertram Goodhue).

Casa Bellia. Vol. VII. No. 82. October. Competition designs for the Palazzo del Littorio on the Via dell'Impero. Rome; some fifteen designs illustrated, almost all of which are decidedly modern in treatment.

CHURCHES

ARCHITETTURA. Vol. XIII. No. 9. September.

Description and illustrations of a "votive temple to international peace," Rome, dedicated to the sacred heart of Christ the King, Architect, Marcello Piacentini.

UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS

Architect and Building News, Vol. CXL. No. 3438.

Mr. J. M. Easton's (Stanley Hall and Easton & Robertson [FF.]) design for new buildings for Caius College, Cambridge, on Market Hill, between St. Mary's Court and Rose Crescent. A simple, definitely modern design which should set an engaging new standard for Cambridge street building. Shops occupy the ground floor, the first occasion, we believe, in which a college has provided for commercial and collegiate needs in one building.

Construction Moderne. Vol. L. No. 1. 7 October. Groupe scolaire at Fontainebleu (Hourlier and Delaire), an interesting scheme of simple modern buildings for primary school for 150 girls and a nursery school for 140 infants.

Builder, Vol. CXLVII. No. 4786, 26 October, Dudden Hill Technical College, Neasden (W. T. Curtis [F.] and H. W. Burchett [A.]).

Bygge Kunst (Oslo). Vol. XVI. No. 9. September. A students' hostel by a lake at As (T. Jensen).

CLINIC

Casa Bella (Milan), Vol. XII, No. 81, September, A large clinic at Berlin University, very fully illustrated and described.

SWIMMING BATH

Moderne Bauformen. Vol. XXXIII. No. 10. October. Opel-Bad, Wiesbaden—a long, well illustrated description of a new open-air swimming bath and sun-bathing gardens, etc.; simple, modern, with great attention paid to the garden design. Architects. F. Schuster, E. Fabry, and garden architect, W. Hirsch. A very good scheme deserving attention.

AERODROMES

JOURNAL OF INSTITUTE OF MUNICIPAL AND COUNTY ENGINEERS, Vol. LXI, No. 8, 9 October, Modern Airports, article by W. J. Jarvis, of Salisbury, Rho-

desia, with special reference to Salisbury Airport.

ARCHITECTURAL FORUM, Vol. LXI, No. 4. October.

Shushan Airport, New Orleans, La. (Weiss, Dreyfous and Sciferth)

Byggmastaren. 1934. No. 32, 17 October. Competition designs for the airport at Brommä, Sweden.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS AND MUSEUMS

Chanters. Vol. II. No. 5. August-September.
The construction of the grand palais of the Brussels exposition 1935. The large central hall is 90 by 160 metres, spanned by twelve reinforced concrete parabolic arches 31 metres from floor to apex, similar in type to those of the Orly hangar, which are larger, but the necessity for perfect day-lighting at Brussels made the problem more complicated.

Profil (Vienna). Vol. II. No. 10. October.

Profil. (Vienna). Vol. II. No. 10. October, Small exhibition to promote timber house building in Austria; good presentation on simple plan.

Casa Bella (Milan), Vol. XII. No. 81. September.
A small museum at Novara (A. Morbelli, architect); very simple forms to give best exhibition conditions.

THEATRES AND CINEMAS

Construction Moderne, Vol. L. No. 6, 11 November. Cinema Marbeuf, Paris (M. Taverney), a small basement cinema with projecting room on opposite side of curtain to audience, the only arrangement possible to give the necessary safety exits, etc. The hall seats 400 and gallery 100.

Architecture d'Aujourd'isui. Vol. V. 4th Series. No. 7. September.

Cinema "Grand Théâtre" at Shanghai (L. E. Hudec) seats 2,400.

Byggmastaren. 1934. No. 32. 17 October. The Göteborg State Theatre (Carl G. Bergsten), a good modern classic design, excellent services, foyers and circulation.

HOUSING

Concrete. Vol. XXIX. No. 10, October.

Technical description of concrete construction of flats at Peckham (Adams, Thompson and Fry [A.]). The flats' plans are standardised and the construction is based on a system of standardised working units which, it is claimed, is cheaper and more economical in plan than a steel building conforming to the L.B.A.

EOUIPMENT

JOURNAL OF INSTITUTION OF HEATING AND VENTILATING ENGINEERS, Vol. II. No. 20, October. Gas and coke-fired Loilers for central heating and domestic water heating (article by S. Adams).

LA CONSTRUCTION MODERNE. Vol. L. No. 5. 5 November. Ventilation secondaire—article on anti-syphonage and vent systems in modern drainage.

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Balconies for Babies

The following letter on the subject of the provision of balconies in tenement buildings was prepared by the R.I.B.A. and submitted to the Minister of Health.

SIR,—The importance of including at least a small private balcony to working and middle-class flats, large enough to take a cot for infants up to two years, has been brought to the notice of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

After careful consideration it was felt that the matter was one of first importance to architects and others who are responsible for the planning of such flats. Moreover, it was felt that it was the duty of the profession, without whose co-operation little could be done, to call attention to the matter, supported by medical opinion.

With this in view both medical and architectural evidence was sought, and the following memorandum was prepared and submitted to the Minister of Health, who suggests that its publication may be the best means of bringing the matter before those concerned.

The subject divides itself broadly into three headings,

- 1. The medical and health aspect.
- 2. The economic aspect.
- 3. Planning and construction.
 - 1. The Medical and Health Aspect.

The baby is essentially an out-of-door creature.

It is important that it should start an out-of-door life at once to fit it for a partially indoor life.

The critical years are from birth to two years.

Fresh air is one of the first and essential preventatives against colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis, rickets, etc.

Rickets is a disease which occurs in the first two years of life and its prevention is rendered more difficult in flats without balcony accommodation.

A flat without a private balcony is considered by some as incomplete as a flat without a bathroom.

A small private balcony large enough to take a basket or cradle within easy reach of the mother is what is wanted as a minimum.

Quiet is necessary.

The roof and ground are of little or no use if the baby is out of sight and the mother worried. The mother must be in reach of the baby, and able to see it if possible.

The south is the best aspect, but east or west and even north nearly as good.

Direct sunlight is not essential, and is sometimes too strong. Reflected skylight is as good.

High solid balconies are not desirable. Open wrought iron balconies on a small plinth are best. There need be no fear from draught.

Some protection from cats and inclement weather is needed.

Noisy common approach or connecting balconies are not desirable for the purpose, and even a family balcony does not give the same quiet.

A recessed balcony does not meet the case as a projecting balcony does, as there is not the same direct sky reflection.

2. Economic Aspect.

There is ample evidence to show that the provision of a small private balcony is quite feasible even in the lowest priced flats, and that it would be true to say that its inclusion adds only negligibly to the cost.

The cheapest form of balcony is one that can be provided as a complete unit in cheap materials, and reinforced concrete for floor and curb is generally considered the most economic material for the purpose.

3. Planning and Construction.

There is no real difficulty here.

The chief problems in connection with such buildings are access, overshadowing, safety, aspect, cleansing.

The Committee investigating the matter were unanimously of the opinion that as a minimum a projecting balcony, of a size sufficient to take a cot, was an essential part of the accommodation of a dwelling flat.

It was realised that while most competent architects and many housing authorities were alive to the needs of such balconies, and were including them in the schemes under their supervision, there was evidence to show that little or no attention was being paid to the question in many quarters.

The fact that some mothers do not and would not use such balconies for the purpose was not considered to be an argument against them.

Opinion was voiced that attempts to check preventable diseases during the first two years of a child's life would be rendered extremely difficult if the majority of babies were to be left indoors for hours together in the flats which are likely to be erected all over the country during the next few years; and that, alternatively, the provision of such balconies, if properly used, must and would have a great beneficial effect on the health of future generations.—Yours faithfully,

GILES GILBERT SCOTT,

President R.I.B.A.

A. B. KNAPP-FISHER,

Chairman, Art Standing Committee.

S. Pointon Taylor,

Chairman, Science Standing Committee.

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BABIES FOR BALCONIES

The R.I.B.A. memorandum on balconies for babies was honoured by "The Times" with a fourth leader on the subject under the much more engaging title than the official one—"Babies for Balconies." We print it below by permission.

Himself a father, Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, President of the R.I.B.A., turns, from magnoperating upon Liverpool Cathedral and Waterloo Bridge, a careful eye upon so homely a matter as balconies, and babies to put in them. Balconies for babies—balconies as prophylactics against "colds, bronchitis, pneumonia, tuberculosis, rickets, etc." what awful illnesses does that humane "etc." conceal from our knowledge?); and babies as deserving of balconies, as the proper things to put in balconies; and no less a body than the Royal Institute of British Architects presenting a memorandum to a Minister of State about it all-how our ancestors, and still more our ancestresses, would have mocked or wondered at such ideas! It cannot be very long since babies were so tightly swaddled up at birth that a shelf on the dresser would have held them as safely as a reinforced-concrete balcony. True, one of Sir Charles Grandison's sisters was very proud of not letting her baby be trussed up. That was about 1750; but she (and Samuel Richardson too) must have been in advance of the age, for, according to the late Mrs. C. S. Peel, the practice had come back by the early part of the last century. Since then indeed, things have moved very fast. When Mrs. Siddons's two daughters were ill with consumption (as it used to be called) they were kept shut up in a room of which the windows were never opened. Now, lest babies should get tuberculosis, or rickets, or etc., they are to start an out-of-door life at They are to be cabined, cribbed, and confined, under the mother's eye and out of reach of the cat, in the open air; and, bounded in a balcony, they may count themselves kings and queens of infinite space.

All the little girls must be named Miranda—so much is only due to Mr. A. E. W. Mason; and the little boys will then all be Ferdinands—for Constance and Norbert are not very pretty names and Browning is out of fashion. Thus named and lodged the babies can hardly fail to do well; but it should not be overlooked that the advocates of balconies for babies are not physicians but architects. Under their eagerness to provide balconies for babies is it possible that they are masking their true purpose, to secure babies for balconies? A balcony must be an amusing thing to plan. It can break up agreeably the elevation of the house; and in itself it might be capable of various effects-of solidity, of grace, of respectable and hygienic comfort, or of naughty, sun-bathing freedom. But in London, and everywhere in England perhaps, except in sunny pot-bellied old Georgian houses on the South Coast, balconies have dwindled into uselessness because no one ever uses them. They look meaningless and they are useless. They take away from the light of the rooms behind; and themselves are too narrow for the legs and too tall in the parapet to allow a good view of the street. The R.I.B.A. knows all about the relation of function to design; and it would be no disparagement of its members to suggest that they have been thinking about babies indeed, but second, and about balconies first. Balconies for babies, by all means; but babies for balconies—there lies the true need. They are wise to begin at the beginning. The little Mirandas and Ferdinands will grow up balcony-minded; and, besides being protected against etc., they will be inaugurating a new era in the use and beauty of the balcony.

The President has forwarded to us the following letter which he received on the subject of "Balconies for Babies":—

26 Cliveden Place, S.W.1.

1 November 1934.

To Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

DEAR SIR.—May a mere layman be allowed to congratulate you on taking up the question of "Babies for Balconies" as *The Times* puts it this morning? I have spent a good deal of my time on balconies, and am sorry to see the type of balcony which is being built for the flats for workers here in London.

I know from experience that the balcony with a solid front is very cold and very draughty, whereas the balcony with a railing allows the sun to beat on the floor of the balcony and to enter the room behind, all of which adds considerably to the warmth of the room. Those rooms with a balcony with solid front and the shade caused by the balcony above must be more like caves than rooms.

A balcony is a grand idea, but it must be the *right* balcony. I hope I may be forgiven for intruding.

Yours truly,

GLADYS THORNELY.

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VICE-PRESIDENT'S ENGAGEMENTS

Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C., will attend the L.M.B.A. Annual Dinner on 13 December 1934, to represent the President.

During November Mr. W. H. Ansell, M.C. (Vice-President), has attended the following dinners:

The inaugural dinner of the British Gas Federation on 5 November, and the annual dinner of the National Water Users Association on 9 November, in place of the President.

The annual dinner of the Devon and Cornwall Architectural Association at Exeter, on a November,

He will also attend a dinner of the Clothworkers' Company, in place of the President, on Wednesday, 5 December.

SIR WILLIAM ROTHENSTEIN, M.A., HON.A.R.C.A.

Sir William Rothenstein is retiring next summer from his position as Principal of the Royal College of Art. At the time of his retirement Sir William Rothenstein will have completed fifteen years as Principal.

DESIGN AND INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Design and Industries Association will be held on Friday, 7 December. Mr. Frank Pick, Hon. A.R.I.B.A., the retiring President, will be in the chair, and the other speakers will be the Rt. Hon. W. G. Ormsby-Gore, M.P., and Mr. J. E. Barton, M.A.

The formal announcement of the acceptance by the Rt. Hon. Lord Melchett of the Presidency of the Association will be made at the dinner. Applications for tickets, which cost 12s. 6d., exclusive of wine, should be made to the Secretary of the Association, 6 Queen Square, W.C. 1, before Monday, 3 December.

ARCHITECTS' DANCE AT OLYMPIA

We have much pleasure in announcing that the Architects' Dance at Olympia, which was given by Mr. H. Greville Montgomery in aid of the Architects' Employment Scheme, during the Building Trades Exhibition in September, realised the sum of £270. The thanks of all those who are connected with the scheme are due to Mr. Montgomery for giving the dance and to Mrs. Lanchester, the Chairman of the Social Committee of the R.I.B.A., who organised it.

ARCHITECTS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

The Architects' Benevolent Society has had the use of office and committee rooms in the premises of the R.I.B.A. practically since the foundation of the society, and they are particularly fortunate in being allotted two rooms by the Institute as office accommodation in their new building in Portland Place. The use of the rooms is given in addition to the grant which the Institute makes the Society annually, and the Council of the Benevolent Society feel they would like to express publicly their keen appreciation of the Institute's generosity and their pleasure in the accommodation which has been given them.

The Society has also been fortunate in being relieved of the charge of providing furniture through the great kindness of one of the Members of the Council, who has given the whole of the furnishings of the rooms.

ARCHITECTS' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

THE BLUE CIRCLE PLAYERS

The Blue Circle Players of the Cement Marketing Company are giving a performance of "Loyalties," by John Galsworthy, in the Arts Theatre Club, 6 and 7 Great Newport Street, W.C.2, on Tuesday, 4 December and Wednesday, 5 December, at 8.30 p.m. The play is being produced by Mr. W. Macaulay Eicke.

The entire proceeds of the sale of the tickets for these two performances are being devoted by the Cement Marketing Company to the Architects' Benevolent Society. The Council have very gratefully accepted the company's offer and hope there will be a large attendance of members and their friends. Tickets, price 6s., 3s. 6d. and 2s. 6d., may be obtained from Mr. A. L. Steels, Portland House, Tothill Street, Westminster, S.W.1 (Telephone: Whitehall 2323 Extension 219), or from the Secretary of the Architects' Benevolent Society, 66 Portland Place, W.1.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION OF BRITISH ART IN INDUSTRY

In connection with the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition of British Art in Industry to be held from January to March next year the Lecture Committee has arranged a scheme of lectures on the following subjects:—

Modern architecture.

Furniture and interior decoration.

Domestic appliances, including lighting, heating and cooking. Furnishing fabrics and carpets.

Dress materials.

Pottery.

Glassware.

Gold, silver and jewellery.

Leatherware.

Plastic mouldings.

Book production, including illustrations and binding.

Posters and commercial printing.

Display

Craftsmanship in industry.

A set lecture suitable for delivery at schools and industrial organisations has also been prepared by the committee. This and a list of the names and addresses of the forty-two lectures who have agreed to co-operate in the scheme and all other particulars can be obtained from the Hon. Organising Secretary. Mr. John de la Valette, Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly. W. Amongst those lecturing on Modern Architecture are Mr. G. Grey Wormum [F.], Mr. Howard Robertson [F.]. Mr. R. Wilenski, Mr. E. Maxwell Fry [F.] and Mr. Walter Wood [F.].

STOCKHOLM'S NEW BUILDING CENTRE

Stockholm is the latest city to open a building centre, based on the example set by the building centre in London. The new venture, known as the Byggtjanst, has been organised by the

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official Architectural Association in Stockholm, in conjunction with the Builders' Association, Property Owners, and various other technical associations, who have representatives on the Board of Directors.

It is situated in one of Stockholm's busiest shopping streets, and most of the leading manufacturers in the building industry are represented.

As a compliment to the London Centre, Mr. F. R. Yerbury, the Director, was invited to attend in connection with the opening, and to deliver a public lecture on the Building Centre in Bond Street. The lecture was attended by architects, builders, manufacturers and members of the public, and was fully illustrated by lantern slides.

Arrangements have been made for close collaboration between the two centres in order to interchange information on market prospects for goods manufactured in either country. It is hoped that there will be an interchange of exhibitions in each city of special materials and equipment manufactured in one country and not in the other.

CARDIFF CIVIC SOCIETY

That the Cardiff Civic Society should exert itself in promoting a repertory theatre for the city was urged by Professor Patrick Abercrombie, of the Department of Civic Design in the University of Liverpool, in his address at the annual meeting of the society.

The work of a civic society was not in any way a duplicate of, or antagonistic to, that of the corporation, but was complementary to it.

There were many occasions when it was necessary to help the local authority financially. They could help considerably in purchasing property that should be preserved for the public.

"I do not think the work ought to be confined to public buildings," he went on. "I think it ought to take a definite interest in music, the theatre, picture galleries, and so on. The local authorities in this country take an interest in pictures but little interest in music. The civic society could step into the breach in this direction and could do a good deal in getting audiences."

Presenting the annual report, Principal J. F. Rees (chairman of the society) said the society was established on 31 October 1933, and the foundations had been well laid. Its existence and activities were becoming known. The membership of the society was 97, but obviously they ought to enrol a much larger number. There was already close contact with the South Wales Land Agents' Society, the Cardiff Young Citizens' Society, and the central branch of the South Wales Institute of Architects.

Many matters of importance to the development of the city had been considered by the executive committee.

Among problems that had engaged their attention were the naming of streets; litter and damages to trees; an information bureau; City-hall extensions; new Government buildings in Cathay Park; the entrance to the Ely Cemetery; and the general question of the orderly arrangements of cemeteries; the Insole and Penhill lay-out and buildings.

Particular attention had been paid to the desirability of placing explanatory notices of uniform design on buildings which had historical associations. The matter of the station approach was one of first-rate importance to the city, and they had put forward a suggestion as to procedure with respect to it.

As a result of their efforts in co-operation with Sir Robert Webber, considerable publicity had been given to the problem of equipping Cardiff with a thoroughly efficient air-port. Two surveys of Cardiff and district had been undertaken under the auspices of the society. Dr. Cyril Fox made the valuable suggestion that they should schedule buildings worthy of preservation. They were being marked on a large scale map and plans and elevations were being prepared. The second survey was devoted to open spaces, parks, and other recreational facilities. They had expressed appreciation of the manner in which the Queen Anne Building scheme was being developed.

Some 1,500 copies of their first publication had been distributed, mainly among local architects and builders, and many letters of warm appreciation had been received. That publication had brought them into touch with other civic societies throughout the country.

THE R.I.B.A. BUILDING

We have been asked to make the following corrections in the List of Artists, Consultants, Contractors and Suppliers of Material: —

The bronze main entrance, modelled by Mr. James Woodford, was detailed by Mr. J. D. M. Harvey.

The ordinary switches were supplied by J. H. Tucker and Co., Ltd. The private automatic telephone system was supplied by the Reliance Telephone Co., Ltd., a subsidiary company of the General Electric Co., Ltd.

The floor clips were supplied by Redalon, Ltd., and not the Adamite Co., Ltd. Redalon, Ltd., also supplied the cement retarder used to give a key on plastered concrete surfaces.

The name of George Jennings (Lambeth), Ltd., should have been included under "Terrazzo." The non-slip ceramic floor supplied by the same firm was incorrectly described.

Curtain fabrics were supplied by Warner and Sons, Donald Bros., the Edinburgh Weavers, A. H. Lee, and Ram, Son and Croeker.

Carpets were supplied by W. C. Gray and Sons and Woodward Grosvenor.

In the biographies of artists who worked on the building it was incorrectly stated that Mr. Dennis Dunlop carved the panels in the "Dominions" screen, whereas they were carved by Messrs. J. L. Green and Vardy from models by Mr. Dunlop.

R.I.B.A. PROBATIONERS

During the month of October 1934 the following were registered as Probationers of the Royal Institute:—

Afterison: Robert, Blackcroft, Sandyhills, Mount Vernon N., Glasgow.

Alford: Anne Stella, 21 Cheyne Walk, London, S.W.3

Belavgi: Mallareddi Hanamareddi, 176 Hindu Colony, Dadar, Bombay 12, India.

BLACK: JAMES, Culloden, Albert Place, Airdrie, Lanarkshire.

BLAKESLEY: DOUGLAS ARTHUR, 29 St. Philips Road, Leicester.

Bland: John, 4 Caroline Place, W.C. t.

Blease: Leslie, 30 Sandon Street, Crewe.

Brown: Reginald William Wallace, 30 Woodfield Avenue, North Wembley, Middlesex.

Chandler: Leslie, 14 Amberley Road, Hilsea, Portsmouth, Hants. Chapman: Walter William, 6 Smyrna Road, N.W.6.

Chappell: Denis, 12 Magdalen Road, North End, Portsmouth.
Chesterton Elizabeth Ursula, Holly Cottage, Silver Street,

Hampstead, N.W.3.

CLOTHIER: LEONARD ERNEST, 3 Heathwood Gardens, Charlton, S.W.7.

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CUTHBERTSON: NANCY HILDA, 77 Beechwood Road, Sanderstead,

DONNER: Tibor Karl, 270 Queen Street, Auckland, New Zealand. EAYRS: ROBERT JAMES, 22 Ashfield Avenue, King's Heath, Birm-

ELLIS: THOMAS BICKERSTAFF HARPER, 5 Quernmore Road, Lancaster. FOWLER: THOMAS REGINALD, St. John's, Chesterton, Cirencester, Glos

GILLO: ROBERT SEWARD, Llanberis, 93 Shakespeare Avenue, Bath, Somerset.

Gow: THOMAS WILSON, 56 Gladstone Place, Aberdeen, GOWANS: ALEXANDER ADAIR, 310 Knightswood Road, Knightswood,

Glasgow, W.3 GRIFFIN: GEORGE ROBERT EDWARD, 4 George Street, Tamworth,

Staffs. GRIFFITHS: NEVILLE, 304 Nantwich Road, Crewe, Cheshire. Hammond: Peter Douglas, 68 Mill Road, Bury St. Edmunds

HASSELL: FRANK COLIN, 234 Young Street, North Unley, Adelaide, South Australia.

HENDERSON: JOHN GEORGE DRYSDALE, Glenfewan, Shandon, Dumbartonshire.

HINCHLIFF: JOHN, 83 Hendon Lane, London, N.3.

HINDSHAW: CHRISTINA, 11 Half Edge Lane, Eccles, Lancashire. HOWARD: ALBERT VICTOR, 56 Letchworth Road, Leicester. HUMPHREYS: ARTHUR FREDERICK, Norbury Vicarage, Hazel Grove, Stockport, Cheshire,

JACOBS: CHRISTOPHER GAGE, 15A Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park, N.W.1.

LEE: GORDON, 10 Pretoria Road, Canterbury

LENNOX: GAVIN STRATHEARN ALLAN, The Bield, Chryston, Glasgow. LOVE: Francis Douglas, 146 Englishcombe Lane, Bath.

LOWDON: THOMAS FENWICK, Marchmont, Batt House Road, Stocksfield-on-Tyne.

MACKAY: GEORGE LAWSON, Shabster, Thurso, Caithness, McQuater: Alfred Brown, "Avondale," Kirkoswald Road, Maybole.

MATHERS: MARGARET ROBERTSON, 162 Nethergate, Dundee,

MATTHERS: MANGART ROBERTSON, 102 Technique, Dinited MATTHEWS: STEPHEN, Cannon Hill, London, N.14.

Monk: Gilbert Leslie, 24 St. Alphonsus Road, Clapham S.W.4.

Monks: Lee, "Woodroyd," Ringley Road, Whitefield. Near Manchester.

NICOL: JOHN, Rosedale, New Lanark.

NIGOL: JOHN, ROSEGIAIE, NEW LANARK.
OSTICK: CHARLES DUNCAN, 4 Rylands Road, Chorley, Lanes.
OWEN: DAVID BRASIL, Tyglyn, Ty-Glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff.
RATCLIFFE: JOHN, "Kindar," Albert Road, Dumfries.
ROYCE: JOHN ROGER, "Hazelhurst," Hazelwood Road. Duffield,

Derby. SCARTH: HENRY ARTHUR, Wellfield, Churwell, Near Leeds.

SEATON: ROWLAND ARCHIE, Tiles, Hillier Road, Guildford, Surrey, SMITH: HENRY PERCY, c/o London Central Y.M.C.A., Tottenham, Court Road, W.C.1.

SPROTT: FERGUSON, Sandhurst, Cookstown. Co. Tyrone, Ireland. STANSFIELD: JOHN CAMERON ODDY, Thorn Cottage, Moor Lane, Strensall, near York.

STURROCK: FREDERICK LAMOND, 34-36 Bedford Square, W.C.I. THORNLEY: DENIS GLYN, "Arnside," Stockport Road, 1 Stockport Road, Hyde. Cheshire.

THORNTON: PETER MUSCHAMP, c/o The Bank of Montreal, 9 Waterloo Place, S.W.1.

THRELFALL: DOROTHY MARY, "Arden," Upper Highway, King's Langley, Herts.

TIPPETTS: THOMAS ARTHUR, "Greenside," Draycott Avenue, Kenton, Middlesex.

TOMLINSON: JAMES BRIAN, "Bryn Derwen," Park Avenue, Leeds. TUGWELL: PERCIVAL DENNIS, The Pharmacy, Lymington Road, Higheliffe, Christchurch, Hants.

WARD: KENNETH, High Street, South Milford, Yorkshire. WATKINS: NORMAN AINSLIE, Sea Walls, Sneyd Park, Bristol. WILLIAMS: THOMAS CYNWYD, Glan-y-cefn, 66 Regent Street. Treorchy.

WRIGHT: DUNCAN JAMES JOHNSTONE, "Ardenlea," Alford, Aberdeenshire.

Correspondence

RURAL HOUSING

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 20 Buckingham Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2. 22 October 1934.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.

DEAR SIR,-My Committee knows that you will, with it, welcome the ruling that has been given by the Ministry of Health in regard to certain classes of buildings in rural clearance areas. I send you a copy of the letter we received from the Ministry on the 13 October confirming its policy

Before this we were informed by the Ministry that in a case where the owner gave a proper undertaking that a house which was now unfit for habitation, and would not be used again for habitation unless put into a fit condition approved by the local Authority, it need not be destroyed, and yet that the local Authority would obtain a grant from the Ministry for rehousing the ejected tenants. This also is an important modification and one very useful upon occasion.

We would be grateful if you could make reference to these decisions in the R.I.B.A. JOURNAL.-I am, Yours sincerely, A. R. Powys,

A. R. Powys, Esq.

[COPY]

Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W.t. 13 October 1934.

SIR,-In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo, I am directed by the Minister of Health to state that the Exchequer grant under the Housing Act, 1930, is available for the rehousing of persons displaced by the conversion of two adjoining houses into one through house where such conversion is the result of action taken by a Local Authority under Section 90 of the Act. No grant under the Act is available in respect of the cost of

reconditioning houses, but it would, of course, be open to the owner of a house to make application to the Local Authority for a grant under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts in respect of the cost of such works as are specified in those Acts .- I am, Sir, Your obedient

(Sgd.) A. R. KERWOOD.

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Obituary

ALBERT NELSON BROMLEY [F.]

Mr. A. N. Bromley was born on 15 July 1850 and died on 16 August 1934. He was articled to Frederick Bakewell, of Nottingham, and from there went to Lincoln as assistant to Henry Goddard. In 1872, for fourteen months, he travelled on the Continent, visiting Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Holland.

On his return to England he obtained a post in Charles Barry's office in London and was a contemporary there with the late Sir Aston Webb. He returned to Nottingham and started to practise in 1875. In 1905 Mr. H. G. Watkins, of Lincoln, was taken into partnership and the firm continued until 1928, when Mr. Watkins retired owing to ill-health. Mr. Bromley's grandson, Mr. T. N. Cartwright, and Mr. T. H. Waumsley (who had been Mr. Bromley's chief assistant for over 20 years) were then taken into partnership.

The principal works carried out by Mr. Bromley during his professional career were several telephone exchanges in various parts of the country for the National Telephone Company, including the head office on the Embankment, London; various schools for the Nottingham School Board; a very considerable number of retail premises, warehouses and factories for Messrs. Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd., including their branches at Glasgow, Brighton, Leicester and Cheltenham; several branches for the National Provincial Bank, Ltd., and for Lloyds Bank, Ltd., including the latter's Nottingham head office; complete Nottingham factory of Messrs. J. B. Lewis and Sons, Ltd., hosiery manufacturers; the works of Messrs. Ericsson Telephones, Ltd., Beeston, Notts; rebuilding for Messrs. Griffin and Spalding, Ltd., a large departmental store in the Market Place, Nottingham; the Women's Hospital, Nottingham; the Harlow Wood Orthopædic Hospital near Mansfield, and various domestic works, including the restoration of Cottesmore Hall.

Mr. Bromley was elected a Fellow of the Institute in 1886. He was a member of Council and also, at one time, President of the Nottingham, Derby and Lincoln Architectural Society. A keen fisherman, he was the author of two books, A Fly-fisher's Reflections, 1860–1930, and Work and Sport.

The practice of Bromley, Cartwright and Waumsley will be carried on by T. N. Cartwright [A.] and T. H. Waumsley [L.] at 6 Clarendon Street, Nottingham.

W. G. BUCK [F.]

Mr. Buck, who died on 19 October, at the age of 70, was born in 1864. He was educated at Beccles Academy and the Albert Memorial College, Framlingham. On leaving school he was

articled to Arthur Pells, F.S.I., who, with his father, Nathaniel Pells, had a considerable practice in East Anglia.

At the age of 21 Mr. Buck went to Manchester, where he was engaged on engineering and architectural works, including the building of the Exchange Station, Manchester, the reconstruction of Exchange Station and hotel, Liverpool, and the reconstruction of the railway station at Blackburn. In 1890 he was engaged as chief assistant to Mr. T. H. Jenkinson, an architect practising in Sheffield, and soon became a force in reorganising the business, which, as Frith Bros. and Frith Bros. and Jenkinson, had been carried on from the reign of William IV.

Mr. Buck succeeded to this practice in 1898, and on the death of Mr. Jenkinson in 1900 was his executor and trustee. Since that time Mr. Buck had carried on the practice of architect and surveyor, his work being largely in connection with commercial buildings and factories.

While Mr. Buck was associated with the firm it was responsible for the design and construction of several commercial buildings, factories, picture theatres and private residences, including the Sunbeam Picture Palaces, Sheffield; Messrs. J. J. Saville's steel factory, Sheffield; the Esplanade Café, Ltd., Bridlington, and T. P. Greystone's Grange Estate, Sheffield.

In 1930 Mr. Buck was elected President of the Sheffield and

In 1930 Mr. Buck was elected President of the Sheffield and South Yorks and District Society of Architects and Surveyors, on the council of which he has sat continuously since 1906. He was elected a Licentiate of the Institute in 1911 and a Fellow in 1926, and served on the Council.

Mr. Buck was a member of the Council of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce; of the Court of Governors of the University of Sheffield, and of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England, and he held several directorships in Sheffield companies, chiefly cinema companies.

In 1932 he took into partnership Mr. Arthur M. Lusby [A.] and Mr. Edward G. Buck [A.], who are carrying on the practice at the same address.

GEORGE LAWTON BROWN [L.]

Mr. George Brown was born on 7 August 1868 and died on 11 August 1934. Educated at Tenby, he was later articled to Mr. James Tait, of Leicester, and in 1890 started in personal practice at Spencer Chambers, 4 Market Place, Leicester. In 1910 he took into partnership Mr. Percy C. Jones. He was responsible for the following buildings in or near Leicester:—The Edward Wood Hall, the Stoneygate Baptist Chapel, the Erington Road Church of Christ, the Oadby Chapel, the present offices of the Leicester Permanent Building Society and the Taylor Street Schools, Leicester. He was elected a Licentiate of the Institute in 1911. He was a member of the Leicester and Leicestershire Society of Architects since 1893.

Allied Societies

MANCHESTER SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

At a meeting of the Manchester Society of Architects on to October ${\rm Mr.\ J.\ R.\ Adamson\ }[F.]$ delivered his presidential address.

Mr. Adamson started his address by thanking the Officers, Council and Members of the Society, and in particular Mr. John Swarbrick. Hon. Secretary for the past 11 years, for the help and support they had given him during the past year.

He went on to speak of the importance of the Centenary of the R.I.B.A., and of its new premises, and said that we must look forward with confidence to the opening of this second century of the Institute's history and to an increasing sphere of usefulness for it and its hundred allied Societies in the cause of Architecture at home and in the Empire overseas.

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Mr. Adamson then dealt with the chief events of the past session of the Manchester Society, which had been marked by a most successful series of Sessional Meetings, the attendance being excellent, and the addresses varied and stimulating. He called attention to an important event in the coming session, the Joint Lecture with the Royal Manchester Institution and the Institute of Builders, which was this year to be delivered by Professor Patrick Abercromby, whose subject, "Town and Country Planning in Relation to Industry," was one of immediate interest and importance.

Mr. Adamson then referred to the reconstituted Students' Society, and to the successful conclusion of the competition for the design of small houses and the formation in Manchester of a Panel of Architects under the auspices of this Society and the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. The aim of the Panel is to control, or at any rate to influence, the design of small speculative houses, and at a very modest charge it offers builders the opportunity of its help. He hoped the success which attended the inauguration of the movement would greatly increase as the value of the assistance became better known, and said that thanks were specially due to Mr. Francis Jones for undertaking the duties of Honorary Secretary to the Panel.

Mr. Adamson also referred to the efforts of the R.I.B.A. and of the Manchester Society to deal with the problem of unemployment, and expressed confidence that should another appeal be necessary it would be met in the same generous spirit as before. The work of the Society in two other important directions was then discussed, Mr. Adamson describing briefly the valuable activities of the Joint Consultative Board of Architects and Builders and the Civic Advisory Committee. The Joint Consultative Board during the year had dealt with numerous problems relating to the Building trade generally and the improvement of relations between Architects and Builders, and in particular had devoted time to the preparation, discussion, and publication of further standard specifications for work in various trades. The Civic Advisory Committee had again been under the invaluable guidance of Dr. Percy S. Worthington as Chairman. Typical of the problems with which it had to deal was the vexed question of the Dun Bull Inn at Haweswater, the design of which the Civic Advisory Committee was unable to approve. It is difficult to understand why, in a case of this kind, where the principle of consultation had been accepted by the Waterworks Committee, the actual consultation should not have taken place much earlier, when helpful changes in the design could readily have been effected.

The registration and education of architects were discussed by Mr. Adamson, who also referred to the need for education of the public in architectural matters, stressing in this connection the importance of the work of the recently constituted R.I.B.A. Public Relations Committee.

Mr. Adamson spoke of the great tradition of English building, tracing its growth from Saxon to modern times, and stressing the still considerable influence of the Regency period on architecture and town planning. He said that in spite of the modern tendency to scoff at the past, he believed that the influence of this great tradition still persisted and could not be over-estimated. One cheering sign was the fact that public taste showed signs of awakening. There was a more informed press criticism of and comment upon the building problems and buildings of to-day. This new interest, however, had its attendant dangers, and there was a tendency for people in their ignorant enthusiasm to admire new and startling buildings for the wrong reasons. The responsibility of the architect of to-day was a very great one.

Mr. Adamson concluded by citing a parable from one of G. K. Chesterton's early books which tells of the adventure of a young man who, setting off from our shores on a voyage of great enterprise, after many vicissitudes, many storms, many perils and long and arduous journeying, made at last a fortunate landfall and coming ashore to end his great quest found he had discovered—the Pavilion at Brighton! "May it not be possible," said Mr. Adamson, "that there is in this a moral for us and that setting out to discover the new and strange fature of architecture our age may perhaps end by discovering amongst other things the value of its past."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Col. Westcott, Senior Vice-President, and ably seconded by Mr. W. A. Johnson, the Junior Vice-President, who, while differing to some extent in his point of view, congratulated Mr. Adamson upon his able exposition. The vote of thanks was supported by Mr. Francis Jones and Mr. H. A. Johnson, and Mr. J. H. Napper, the Chairman of the Studens' Section, and was carried by acclamation.

BIRMINGHAM AND FIVE COUNTIES ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

The second meeting of the Session was held in the Galleries of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists on 19 October. The President, Mr. William T. Benslyn [F.], occupied the chair, and an address on Architectural Education was given by Mr. George Nott [F.], Principal of the Leicester School of Architecture.

During the last few years, the lecturer remarked, much has been written on the beauty of England and on the necessity of preserving it, yet, in spite of Fine Art Commissions, Art Advisory Committees, Civic Societies, and all the other organisations whose main concern is the prevention of the disfigurement of our towns and of the countryside, there is still much which fills the observer with the deepest depression—hideous new roads, vulgar and offensive buildings, bungalows and villas invading the remotest villages, glaring hoardings, huge and ill-mannered advertisements, and the night made horrible in our towns by expensive signs of blood red and violent blue. Evidently the public still needs a great deal of education, and in the providing of this education the architect ought to take a leading part.

Before he can educate others the architect must himself be educated, and the lecturer then gave a brief outline of the history of architectural education in this country and the form it has now assumed.

In 1834, the year of the foundation of the R.I.B.A., there was nothing in England which could be called a system of architectural education in any way comparable to that of the Ecole des Beaux Artsin Paris. There was a Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy, and in the Academy Schools a few young men worked at the subject of design with the assistance of occasional visits from architect members of the R.A., but nothing more was done in the formal teaching of architecture until the London A.A. instituted classes in design about sixty years ago. To-day, not only in Great Britain but throughout the Empire, many Schools of Architecture are to be found, all working in close association with, and under the general supervision of, the Board of Architectural Education in London.

This Board came into existence in 1904, and, as first constituted, its business was to consider and advise upon the subject of architectural education and to draw up a model curriculum through which architects should pass; but in 1910 it was remodelled, its powers were enlarged, and it was given authority over examinations, particularly those qualifying for admission to the R.I.B.A.

Mr. Knott then described the general course of study followed by the Schools of Architecture throughout the Empire, and remarked that students who successfully passed the examinations held in thirty-one of them were granted exemption from the Intermediate Examination of the R.I.B.A., and in twenty of them from the Final Examination. He also stated that last year no less than 1.919 students in these recognised schools were taking courses leading to exemption from R.I.B.A. examinations.

In the discussion following the reading of the paper (in which several members of the Birmingham Architectural School took part) the necessity was emphasised of supplementing the teaching of the schools by practical work in architects' offices, and by visits to buildings in course of erection.

The third general meeting of the Birmingham and Five Counties Architectural Association was held in the Galleries of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists on Friday, 9 November, the President, Mr. William T. Benslyn [F.] presiding. The rules relating to the incorporation of the Coventry Architectural Society as a Chapter of the Association were discussed and passed, and the members then listened to a paper on Architectural Draughtsmanship written by Mr. Harold Falkner [F.], of Farnham. The paper was illustrated by a number of lantern slides made from drawings by Mr. Falkner, but the writer was unfortunately unable to be present and his paper was read by Mr. Benslyn.

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Formerly, the lecturer remarked, drawings of buildings had a certain value to the draughtsman as a means of advertisement, but recent developments in the architectural Press and in the teaching of the schools had entirely wiped that out. A change in outlook, however, might occur, and with it a desire to see or to possess such drawings might return, and the lecturer then gave some suggestions as to the best way of producing them. He advised that too much should not be attempted at one time—from twenty minutes to two hours be considered quite sufficient to give to any drawing—but proficiency would only be obtained as the result of much painstaking labour. The thanks of the meeting to Mr. Falkner for writing the paper, and to Mr. Benslyn for reading it, were expressed by Mr. E. C. Bewlay [F.] and Mr. A. T. Butler [F.].

WEST YORKSHIRE SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

FORMATION OF BRADFORD BRANCH

Members of the above society belonging to Bradford and district, having been requested by the council to form a branch of the West Yorkshire Society, and having been circularised as to its rules for the formation, definition, conduct, and management of the same, met at Bradford on 29 October to discuss the proposal.

Mr. Victor Bain, president of the society, in taking the chair said that the ultimate benefit to their members in the outlying districts could not be too greatly emphasised or overestimated. The urgent necessity for the formation of branches to relieve, in some degree, the pressure of work on headquarters would be fully realised by those who had served on the council; but to others who had not been so closely associated with the work of the society, he would refer to two matters of vital interest to all members. The first was that of representation to, and co-operation with local authorities; the second being registration. In these two matters alone, it would be appreciated that without the invaluable aid of local knowledge, headquarters could not in all cases function to the best advantage. The branches, continued Mr. Victor Bain, would not form separate entities, although they would certainly bring the members as a whole into closer touch with headquarters, and thus, it was considered, interest in the work of the society would be stimulated, and that as a body they would be more united.

Mr. B. R. Gribbon, speaking in support, said that when attending Allied Societies Conferences at the R.I.B.A., he found that 12 out of the 20 allied societies in Great Britain possessed branches, amounting in some cases to six. Further, that each branch entitled societies to one representative on the conference, over and above those of the parent body. This being the case, it was strikingly evident that the West Yorkshire Society, which had 435 members and no branches at all, was most inadequately represented, by its two members, on this conference. This was a state of things which seemed to their council to call for strong action on its part; and itwasendeavouring to establish at least five branches of their society, so as to obtain a more just proportional representation on the Allied Societies Conference.

A discussion followed, and questions were answered by the president, with a result that, on the motion of Alderman Illingworth, seconded by Mr. R. Jowett Edmondson, it was resolved to establish a Bradford Branch of the society, and in due course to call a meeting to elect the necessary officers. It was estimated that, to begin with, the new branch would consist of about 70 members.

NORTHERN ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

At the opening meeting of the session, held on 10 October, the President, Col. W. Milburn $[F_*]$, F.S.I., delivered his inaugural address. Col. Milburn dwelt at some length on housing and slum

clearance, both as a national and a local problem. He expressed the opinion that it was a problem only to be solved by private enterprise. He deplored the present system of clearing sites and rebuilding following the same general lay-out, and looked forward to the operation of the proposed new Bill which was to give local authorities power to replan the cores of their towns. Traffic developments, he thought, would have a very great effect on the layout of our cities, and also the provision of aerodromes. A hopeful sign for the future was the increased collaboration between industrialists, engineers and architects in the general design of structures.

Colonel Milburn congratulated staff and students of the Armstrong College School of Architecture on its successes, Mr. F. A. C. Maunder having received the award of the Rome Scholarship in Architecture for 1934, Mr. H. B. Thompson and Mr. Maunder having gained admittance to the final stage of the Victory Scholarship, and Mr. Hayton having been awarded a Research Studentship. He also referred to the invaluable work of the Chairmen and members of the Teesside and Cumberland branches, and concluded by thanking Mr. Austin Child, the Hon. Secretary of the Association, for his excellent work during the past session and his arrangements for the coming season.

EDINBURGH ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION

At the monthly meeting of the Council of the Edinburgh Architectural Association, held at 15 Rutland Square, a cordial welcome was extended to the new President, Mr. A. F. Balfour Paul, F.R.I.B.A., who presided. An appreciation of the late Mr. J. M. Johnston, F.R.I.B.A., Leith, was read and minuted. The Secretary reported results of the negotiations with the Town Council as to devolution of Edinburgh City Architectural Work and Advisory Panels relative to Control of Elevations. It was resolved to nominate Principal Sir Thomas Holland and Sir D. Y. Cameron, R.A., as Honorary Fellows of the Royal Incorporation. A grant of £20 was made to the Associate Section for social expenses. The President was appointed to attend the R.I.B.A. Centenary celebrations in London on behalf of the Association. The following Members were elected: Messrs. T. J. Harkess, Leith, and George Robertson, Liberton, as Associates; Messrs. Andrew S. Hood, David Stephen, Walter S. Scott, J. D. Weir, J. M. Fox and P. D. Lawson, all of the Edinburgh College of Art, as Students; and Mr. T. Catten, as Athliate.

SOUTH WALES INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Under the auspices of the South Wales Institute of Architects (Central Branch) and the Institute of Builders (South Wales Branch) a lantern lecture entitled "Italy—Old and New" was given in the Lecture Theatre of the Engineers' Institute, Park Place, Cardiff, on Thursday, 4 October 1934, by Mr. F. R. Yerbury, Hon. A.R.I.B.A. (General Secretary of the Architectural Association), when Mr. J. Williamson, A.R.I.B.A., presided over a large audience.

Mr. Yerbury's lecture, which was illustrated by a fine collection of lantern slides, dealt mainly with the buildings of Milan, Florence and Rome, representative examples being shown of Classic, Renaissance and modern structures, and with the help of the slides and the lecturer's breezy comments, the members of the audience were enabled to contrast for themselves the efforts of the designers and craftsmen of three great periods in the history of a great country.

craftsmen of three great periods in the history of a great country.

On the proposal of Mr. Percy Thomas, seconded by Mr. W. S. Purchon, a very hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer was carried with acclamation.

On the morning following the lecture Mr. Yerbury visited the Welsh School of Architecture, the Technical College, Cardiff, and gave a helpful and inspiring address to the students.

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SCHOOL NOTES

ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION SCHOOL NOTES

The following notes were contributed by a student:

The summer vacation is a time that offers opportunity for visiting buildings, and particularly new buildings at home and abroad. In there are always a number of exhibitions more or less connected with architecture which show new tendencies in design and construction. At Olympia there was the Building Trades Exhibition, remarkable chiefly for the profusion of its exhibits, good and bad The rehousing schemes and a few well-designed stands provided the chief interest. Here lack of planning in the lay-out of the Exhibition was put forward as a definite advertising policy. In marked contrast was the equally ineffective orderliness of the Munich Architectural Exhibition. It was only possible for the visitor to see the exhibits in the sequence laid down by the authorities, and a definite route was enforced, and skipping of any section made impossible from beginning to end of the Exhibition.

A most instructive exhibit was the series of doors and windows arranged each one in a partition with its working drawings at the side. Another section comprised a colony of houses which are being sold during their exhibition, and will be inhabited afterwards. These white houses, with their low-pitched pantile roofs, offer an almost ideal solution to the problem of the minimum house. The furnishing and decorating throughout have been architecturally designed, and the enthusiasm of the purchasers showed that German designers have found a method of popularising the scientifically-pla ned and furnished house

The design of a permanent stage is always an interesting exercise in architecture. The very definite requirements of the Ober-Ammergau stage to some extent indicated the architectural solution. and the design is one of the most impressive beauty. The disposition is masterly: central frame for tableaux; Pilate's palace to left; Chief Priest's to right; the junction made by arches framing vistas of the streets of Jerusalem. The free use of concave surfaces provides an endless interest in the changing play of sunlight on them during the course of the day.

The Ober-Ammergau stage is the perfect setting for the flowing action the nature of the play demands. Of quite another order was the problem of Clemens Holzmeister in designing his stage for "Faust" at Salzburg. The background is the eighteenth-century riding school with superimposed arcades cut from the mountain rock, and which he has utilised for choral purposes. In front of this the set is designed as a series of buildings and spaces suggesting the complete village where the action takes place, and culminating in the suggestion of a street in perspective. The action passes from one spot to another, and the grouping of the scenes forms the unified three-dimensional picture in which the action takes place.

Notices

THE FIRST GENERAL MEETING, SESSION 1934-35, MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER 1934, AT 8 P.M.
The first General Meeting of the Session 1934-35, will be

held on Monday, 3 December 1934, at 8 p.m. for the following

To read the Minutes of the Twelfth General Meeting held on Monday, 18 June 1934; formally to admit members attending for the first time since their election. To read the following paper: "John Nash," by John N. Summerson. B.A. (Arch.) Lond. [A.]

EXHIBITION AT THE R.I.B.A.

INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE 1924-34 An International Exhibition of photographs and models of buildings completed between the years 1924-34 will be held at the R.I.B.A., 66 Portland Place, W.1, from 30 November

1934, to 3 January 1935. H.R.H. The Princess Royal has graciously consented to open the Exhibition on Friday, 30 November, at 2.45 p.m., and the official opening will be followed by a private view at which all members of the R.I.B.A. and the Allied Societies are invited to be present.

The Exhibition will be open to the public free of charge from 1 December to 3 January, betweeen the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. (Saturdays 5 p.m.)

All members who intend to be at the formal opening are requested to be at the R.I.B.A. not later than 2.30 p.m.

LICENTIATES AND THE FELLOWSHIP

The attention of Licentiates is called to the provisions of Section IV, Clause 4 (b) and (cii), of the Supplemental Charter of 1925. Licentiates who are eligible and desirous of transferring to the Fellowship can obtain full particulars on application to the Secretary R.I.B.A., stating the clause under which they propose to apply for nomination.

NEW BUILDING MATERIALS AND PREPARATIONS

The Science Standing Committee wish to draw attention to the fact that information in the records of the Building Research Station, Garston, Watford, is freely available to any member of the architectural profession, and suggest that architects would

be well advised, when considering the use of new materials and preparations of which they have had no previous experience, to apply to the Director for any information he can impart regardng their properties and application.

ASSOCIATES AND THE FELLOWSHIP

Associates who are eligible and desirous of transferring to the Fellowship are reminded that if they wish to take advantage of the election to take place on 11 February 1935, they should send the necessary nomination forms to the Secretary R.I.B.A. not later than Saturday, 8 December 1934.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WATER USERS Members are reminded that the National Association of Water Users, on which the R.I.B.A. is represented, exists for the

purpose of protecting the interests of consumers. Members who experience difficulties with water companies, etc., in connection with fittings are recommended to seek the advice of the Association. The address of the Association is 46 Cannon Street, London, E.C.4.

THE USE OF THE TITLES "CHARTERED ARCHI-TECT" AND "REGISTERED ARCHITECT"

Now that the Registration Act is in force, the Council have been asked to give advice with regard to the best way to use the title "Registered Architect" by members of the R.I.B.A. who have been placed on the Register, and who already have the right to use the designation "Chartered Architect.

The Council recommend that members of the R.I.B.A. who have been registered should use the designation "Chartered and Registered Architect.'

THE R.I.B.A. LONDON ARCHITECTURE MEDAL, 1934 The attention of members is drawn to the Form of Nomination and the conditions, subject to which the award will be made, for a building built within a radius of eight miles from Charing Cross during the three years ending 31 December 1934, issued separately with the current number of the JOURNAL. Any member of the Royal Institute is at liberty to nominate any building for consideration by the Jury.

The Nomination Forms should be returned to the Secretary R.I.B.A. not later than 28 February 1935.

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Competitions

BISHOPSGATE: POLICE STATION

The Corporation of the City of London are to hold a competition for the rebuilding of the Police Station, Police Hospital and attendant premises at Bishopsgate. The competition will be open to architects whose principal offices are in the area of the City of London or Metropolitan Police and the President R.I.B.A. has nominated Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.] to act as Assessor.

BURY: NEW TOWN HALL

The Bury Corporation are holding a competition for a new Town Hall. The Assessor is Mr. J. Hubert Worthington, O.B.E. [F.].

CEMENT MARKETING CO.: WORKING MEN'S FLATS

Assessors: Messrs. J. Emberton [F.]; Burnard Geen, M.I.C.E.; and L. H. Keay [F.].

Prizes: £300, £200, £100.

Last day for receiving designs: 19 January 1935.

Conditions from Publicity Department, Cement Marketing Co., Ltd., Portland House, Tothill Street, S.W.1.

COVENTRY: HOSPITAL EXTENSION

The Committee of the Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital are proposing to hold a competition for extensions to the Hospital and the President has nominated Mr. S. N. Cooke [F.] to act as Assessor.

COVENTRY: NEW PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The City of Coventry Local Education Authority invite Registered Architects who on I August 1934 were residing or practising in the City of Coventry to submit in competition designs for a new Public Elementary School to be erected on a site at Wyken.

Assessor: Mr. A. C. Bunch [F.].

Premiums: £100, £50 and £30.

CROYDON: DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Corporation of Croydon are to hold a competition for the lay-out and development of a site in the centre of the town, and the President of the R.I.B.A., in consultation with the Presidents of the Chartered Surveyors' Institution and the Town Planning Institute, has nominated as—

Assessor: Mr. Thomas Adams, F.S.I., M.T.P.I. [F.].

Premiums: £500, £350.

Last day for receiving designs: 30 April 1935.

Conditions from Town Clerk, Town Hall, Groydon. Deposit

DARLINGTON: DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Darlington Town Council are proposing to invite a limited number of architects to submit in competition schemes for the lay-out and development of the centre of the town and the President R.I.B.A. has nominated Mr. H. V. Lanchester [F.] to act as Assessor.

DONCASTER: GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Doncaster Education Committee are proposing to hold a competition for a new Grammar School and the President

R.I.B.A. has nominated Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C. [F.] to act as Assessor.

EAST BARNET: SECONDARY SCHOOL

The President R.I.B.A. has nominated Sir Felix Clay, Bart., M.A. [F.], to act as Assessor in the limited competition to be promoted by the Hertfordshire County Council.

EGHAM: TOWN HALL AND COUNCIL OFFICES

Owing to a change of site, the Egham Competition has been indefinitely postponed.

ENFIELD: CIVIC BUILDINGS

The President has nominated Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C. [F.], to act as Assessor in the competition to be promoted by the Enfield Urban District Council for new civic buildings.

EXETER: CITY HALL

The Exeter City Council are proposing that a new City Hall be erected on the Higher Market site, and that designs be invited in open competition.

FALKIRK MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS

The Falkirk Town Council have decided to invite architects to compete for the design of the Municipal Buildings extension.

GOSPORT: NEW TOWN HALL

The Corporation of Gosport are to hold a competition for a new Town Hall, and the President R.I.B.A. has nominated Mr. A. B. Knapp-Fisher [F.] to act as Assessor.

HERTFORDSHIRE: NEW COUNTY OFFICES

The Hertfordshire County Council are proposing to hold a competition for new County Offices to be erected on the Leahoe estate site. Premiums of £350, £250 and £150 are to be offered.

HASTINGS: NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOL

The Corporation of Hastings are proposing to hold an open competition for a new Grammar School, and Mr. C. Cowles-Voysey [F.] has been appointed to act as Assessor.

ROMFORD: NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS, ETC.

The President has nominated Mr. Kenneth M. B. Cross [F.] to act as Assessor in the competition to be promoted by the Romford Urban District Council for new Municipal Buildings and Assembly Hall.

SKEGNESS: EXTENSIONS TO COTTAGE HOSPITAL

The Committee of the Skegness and District Cottage Hospital are proposing to hold a limited competition for extensions to the hospital. The President R.I.B.A. has nominated Mr. F. J. Horth [F.] to act as Assessor.

SWINDON: PROPOSED TOWN HALL EXTENSION

The Town Council of Swindon propose to hold a competition for extensions to the present Town Hall, and Mr. A. B. Knapp-Fisher [F.] has been appointed by the President of the R.I.B.A. to act as Assessor. Conditions have not yet been drawn up.

WELWYN GARDEN CITY: PUBLIC OFFICES

The Welwyn Garden City Urban District Council are holding a competition for new Public Offices.

Assessor: Mr. C. H. James [F.]. Premiums: £75, £35 and £25.

Last day for receiving designs: 22 December 1934.

Last day for questions: 30 October 1934.

Conditions of the competition may be obtained on application to Mr. B. H. Deamer, Clerk, Council Offices, Bridge Road, Welwyn Garden City. Deposit £1 1s.

WEMBLEY: NEW MUNICIPAL OFFICES

The President has nominated Mr. Stanley Hamp [F.] to act as Assessor in the competition for new Municipal Offices for the Wembley Urban District Council.

Closing date: 1 March 1935.

Conditions will be available shortly.

WIRRAL U.D.C.: NEW COUNCIL OFFICES

The Wirral U.D.C. are holding a competition for new Council Offices, to be erected at Pensby Road, Heswall, limited to architects practising in Liverpool.

Assessor: Mr. Gilbert Fraser, M.C. [F.].

Premiums: £40, £30, £20.

Last day for receiving designs: 31 December 1934.

Conditions of the competition can be obtained from Mr. W. F. Roberts, Clerk to U.D.C., Council Offices, Heswall, Wirrall. Deposit £1 1s.

YORK: LAY-OUT SCHEME

The City Corporation of York propose to invite architects to submit in competition designs for the lay-out of a site on which municipal buildings will probably be erected.

COMPETITION RESULT

TUNBRIDGE WELLS: CIVIC CENTRE

1. £300. Mr. Percy Thomas, O.B.E. [F.], and Mr. Ernest Prestwich, M.A. [F.].

2. £200. Messrs. D. Carr and W. F. Howard [AA.].

3. £100. Messrs. C. Clare Nauheim, B.A., and W. Naseby Adams (A.].

4. £75. Mr. H. T. Wright [F.].

Members' Column

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT WANTED IMMEDIATELY

ARCHITECTURAL ASSISTANT, experienced in the preparation of working drawings, etc., for Sanatoria and or General Hospitals and subsidiary buildings. Man having practical and technical knowledge, capable of handling big job desirable. Reply, stating age, experience, and salary required, giving copies of testimonials, to Box 1611.

ACCOMMODATION IN OFFICE

Architect with office in Manchester Square has accommodation for another. For terms apply Box No. 9114, c/o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

PARTNERSHIP WANTED

B. Arch., A.R.I.B.A., recently commenced in practice, desires partnership with another architect similarly situated, either in Liverpool or London, with a view to combining experience and office expenses. Capital available.—Box No. 8114, c o Secretary, R.I.B.A.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Messrs. Leete and Darby, Chartered Architects, Surveyors and Town Planning Consultants, wish to announce that they have transferred their Clevedon office from The Triangle to to Alexandra Road, and in future the practice will be carried on under the name of N. H. N. Darby, A.R.I.B.A., P.A.S.I., A.M.T.P.I., the sole partner, Tel. No. 105, who will be pleased to receive trade inquiries and catalogues.

Mr. C. R. Tozea [A.] has changed his address from No. 10 Arnison Road, to 8 Arnison Road, East Molesey, Surrey.

Mr. A. Edward Shervey [F.] has changed his address to 40 Stafford Road, Bournemouth.

MR. G. A. BUTLING [A.] has changed his address to 24 Adamson Road, Swiss Cottage, N.W.3. Telephone: Primrose 3765.

Architects' Benevolent Society

PENSION AND FAMILY PROVISION SCHEME FOR ARCHITECTS

The provision of an adequate pension when working days are over has been a matter of grave concern to the professional man since interest rates on gilt-edged and other safe stocks have fallen with no immediate prospect of recovery. There was a time when a few thousand pounds meant comfort, but those days have gone, and the scheme of pension and family insurance outlined below makes its appearance at a most opportune moment.

The scheme has been formulated by the Insurance Committee of the Architects' Benevolent Society and is available to all members of the R.I.B.A. and its Allied and Associated Societies. An adequate pension can be secured, fixed in amount, and in every way guaranteed, together with the benefit of a widow's pension, payable for life and similarly guaranteed, if the member does not reach retirement age.

The scheme is designed on the broadest lines and the member without dependants may take advantage of the persion benefit alone or the pension can be commuted for a cash sum if desired.

BENEFITS UNDER THE SCHEME

The benefits under the scheme include:-

(1) A Member's Pension, which may be effected for units of £50 per annum, payable monthly and commencing on attainment of the anniversary of entry nearest to age 65. This pension is guaranteed over a minimum period of five years and payable thereafter for the remainder of life.

(2) The Beneficiary's Pension, payable as from the anniversary mentioned in Benefit No. 1, but to the widow (or other nominated beneficiary) if the member dies before age 65. The amount of this pension is adjusted in accordance with the disparity between the ages of the member and his wife.

(3) Family Provision. Under this benefit a payment of £50 yearly is made to the dependant from the date of death of the member prior to age 65 until attainment of the anniversary previously mentioned, after which Benefit No. 2 becomes available.

Provision can be made for any number of units (of £50 per annum) up to a maximum of £500 per annum.

By adopting a scheme which is limited to members of the architectural profession, the Committee has been able to secure more advantageous terms than would be obtainable by members individually.

Members are entitled to claim rebate of Income Tax on their periodical contributions to the scheme both in respect of pension and of family provision benefit.

Full particulars of the scheme will be sent on application to the Secretary, A.B.S. Insurance Department, 66 Portland Place, W. I.

R.I.B.A. JOURNAL

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